

(b) For the purposes of this section, service in the Armed Forces of the United States, in the case of an individual relieved from training and service in the Armed Forces of the United States or discharged from hospitalization following such training and services, shall include the period provided by law for the mandatory restoration of such individual to a position in or under the Federal Government or the municipal government of the District of Columbia.

SEC. 9. For the purpose of determining the amount of insurance for which an officer or member is eligible under the provisions of chapter 87 of title 5, United States Code (relating to government employees group life insurance), all changes in rates of compensation or salary which result from the enactment of this title shall be held and considered to be effective as of the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 10. This Act shall take effect on the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after December 31, 1967.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, January 22, 1968.

HON. JOHN L. McMILLAN,
*Chairman, Committee on the District of Columbia,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. McMILLAN: The Government of the District of Columbia has for report H.R. 13981, a bill "To authorize the District of Columbia government to pay travel expenses, per diem to persons traveling between their home or place of business to the District of Columbia to ascertain whether he is qualified for appointment to the Metropolitan Police Department, and for other purposes."

The bill provides recruitment inducements for the Metropolitan Police force substantially similar to those recommended by the former Board of Commissioners in its letter of February 9, 1967 to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and incorporated in H.R. 6644 and H.R. 11149. These recruitment inducements were also recommended by the Board of Commissioners in its October 10, 1967 report to you on H.R. 10761, H.R. 11278, and H.R. 11435. The District of Columbia Government reiterates the view that these inducements would be a valuable aid in filling the vacancies on the Metropolitan Police force.

While it is believed that a salary increase will facilitate the recruitment of applicants for the Metropolitan Police force, there is also a definite need to provide additional recruitment incentives to strengthen the District's ability to obtain more qualified applicants. Even though definite emphasis is placed on recruiting locally, the shortage of qualified police applicants in the District of Columbia and the National Capital Region requires recruiting efforts beyond these areas. In addition to attractive salaries, applicants are interested in compensation for their expenses and such extra expenditures as may be required in accepting employment as a police private in the District.

Accordingly, the following recruitment inducements provided in the bill can be expected to aid in eliminating the present large number (304) of police vacancies:

1. The payment of transportation expenses to applicants who are requested to travel to Washington, D.C. in order that certain determinations as to their suitability and qualifications for appointment can be made. The estimated annual cost to the District for these expenses is \$25,000.

2. A resettlement cash allowance (not to exceed \$250) and a 90-day per diem allowance (not to exceed \$7.50 per day) for newly-appointed privates who are required to relocate their place of residence. Such allowances would be subject to an agreement by the newly-appointed private to remain in the police service for a period of two years, with a refund required if he left the service within such period.

It would be necessary to establish regulations for the entitlement of resettlement allowances. Dependent on the District's ability or inability to recruit qualified policemen, it may be necessary to revise these regulations, but initially they would provide that—

- A. Payment of the resettlement cash allowance will be made on the basis of \$250 for a married appointee, or \$100 for an unmarried appointee, to provide for extra expenses incurred in relocating his place of residence. To be eligible for such resettlement allowance, the appointee at the time of appointment must live outside the limits of the area prescribed by the District of Columbia Council pursuant to statute, presently the territory within a radius of twenty-one miles from the United States Capitol Building, and be required to move into the prescribed area. The estimated annual cost to the District for these allowances is \$35,000.