

The elimination of the rank of detective and promotion of those in that rank to the rank of detective sergeant does not set a precedent. I call to the Committee's attention Public Law 87-882, approved October 24, 1962, wherein the rank of corporal was abolished and those in the rank of corporal were made sergeants. In the same law the rank of precinct detective was abolished and all those in the rank of detective and precinct detective were combined.

Those detectives being redesignated as detective sergeants would not be eligible to take an examination for promotion to lieutenant as they must serve two years in grade before being eligible to take the promotional examination for lieutenant. A promotional exam was held in October this year, therefore, it would be four years before they would be in competition with the present detective sergeants for promotion to lieutenant, or the uniform sergeant, as the case may be.

I am informed that the estimated cost of this bill would be approximately \$72,000 under the present pay scale.

We respectfully urge that the committee report favorably on H.R. 13203.

We feel that the upgrading of these men would do much to retain experienced policemen on the force.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee for the privilege of appearing here today and expressing the views of the Policemen's Association of the District of Columbia.

I would like to add, Mr. Chairman, that as it now stands in the promotional system, the men in the Criminal Investigation Division have to take four promotions to reach the rank of captain, whereas in the uniform set-up they only take three examinations to reach captain. All of these men that sat here and testified today were under my command no later than last year. I know them to all be dedicated policemen. Their desire is to remain in plainclothes. Whether our Department yields to the total reorganization as it was suggested is a question yet to be determined.

It is my humble opinion that we will always need, and there will always be a need for plainclothesmen, detectives in the Police Department. One only has to look to the crime clearance of last month in robberies alone, which were a pitiful 16 percent. One can understand that this is demoralizing and it is certainly a morale killer for a man who has put many years in plainclothes, when he could have gone the other route, to all of a sudden find himself on the same basis with a new private to take an examination for promotion. Therefore, I strongly urge you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, to vote this bill out favorably.

Thank you very much.

Mr. MULTER. Did your Association take any action on this matter?

Mr. SULLIVAN. Yes, we did. We listened to the members from the Detective Division who came to the Association. We also had meetings with the Chief of Police. The Chief of Police stated that he would allow the two examinations that had been previously testified to, one this year and one in 1969, that he would make no less than 80 this year and 70 two years hence.

This is well and good enough, but if we go into the reorganization of the Police Department where it says that within five years we will accomplish this phasing out of 35 or 34 detective sergeants, whatever the number may be, I do not see how it could be possible to say these men would have a fair chance in promotion under the detective set-up.