

Further, before promulgating any new standards, the Commission would give public notice of rulemaking proceedings, and interested persons, including all segments of the industry affected by a particular set of regulations, would have ample opportunity to comment on the proposed regulations. In short, if the Commission obtains this authority, it would proceed to implement it only after a thorough study of all the problems involved, and in such a way as to take appropriate account of the effect of new standards on the industry.

Moreover, we do not envision prescribing technical standards for all radiation devices. Rather, we contemplate prescribing standards for those devices which, in fact, cause harmful interference to radio reception. We would begin with those presenting the most serious problems. Thus, it is expected that equipment, the use of which is now regulated by the Commission, such as industrial heaters, low-power walkie-talkies, wireless microphones, and receivers for garage-door-opener controls, would be the first to receive our attention.

In summary, we expect that if H.R. 14910 or H.R. 9665 is enacted the technical quality of radio and television reception will improve, especially in those metropolitan areas where there is now excessive radiation. The efficiency of communications service in the industrial radio band will be enhanced. And, most important, some potentially serious threats to safe air navigation and control will be alleviated. Finally, the Commission's efforts in detecting and eliminating harmful interference will be made more efficient.

All this will benefit the public, the users of devices which radiate electromagnetic energy, the great majority of manufacturers who presently attempt to avoid harmful interference problems, and the users of radio communications in general.

That completes my statement, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MACDONALD. Thank you very much, Commissioner Lee.

Are there any questions?

Mr. ROONEY. How did the Commission isolate this problem?

Mr. LEE. Well, I think primarily from complaints of interference to air navigation. In the last 16 months we have investigated some 600 complaints. This requires the use of men and equipment to find the device that is causing the problem.

Mr. ROONEY. How about the existing devices; would they be covered under this act?

Mr. LEE. Existing devices, in effect, Congressman Rooney; all devices are already covered in that we do have the authority to proceed against the user, the guy who bought it, and what this legislation does it moves that authority. It does not remove it, but it adds authority to the fellow who makes it. If you had a garage-door opener and there was interference we would have authority to stop you from using it, but instead of bothering you and finding you in the first instance, we want to go to the fellow who makes them and say: "These are the standards you have to use."

So, in effect, this takes a burden off of the consumer as well as the Government.

Mr. ROONEY. No further questions.

Mr. MACDONALD. Mr. Brown, any questions?

Mr. BROWN. Yes.

Mr. Commissioner, I am interested in this area because I would like to find out what our future technology is going to present to us