

(The statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF DR. FRANK FARMER, PRESIDENT, FEDERAL CITY COLLEGE AND
DR. EUGENE WIEGMAN, DIRECTOR OF EXTENSION, FEDERAL CITY COLLEGE

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for inviting Dr. Eugene Wiegman and me to testify regarding the bills, HR 15280 and S. 1999, to "Amend the District of Columbia Education Act", the authorization to provide the District of Columbia with its own land grant institution. We wish also to thank this Committee for the wisdom it has shown in recommending the passage of PL 89-791, the law which created the Federal City College and the Washington Technical Institute. We are, at long last, able to provide the citizens of the District with public higher education so that they may better meet their own expectations and qualify for positions through which they can contribute more fully as citizens of this city and nation.

The Federal City College plans to open its doors to 2400 students this September, staffed by a faculty of 100, a student service staff of 53, and a small administrative staff. The college will be temporarily housed in the old Securities Exchange Commission Building at Second and "D" Streets, N.W., just a few blocks from here. The Washington Technical Institute is now housed at the old Bureau of Standards Building on Connecticut Avenue, N.W. The reception of these two institutions by the community; students, citizens, Commissioner Washington, the City Council and Congress is gratifying. We know we are needed and we will do our utmost to fulfill the great responsibility which we have assumed.

PL89-791 states that the Federal City College is authorized by the Congress to offer a four year program in liberal arts and sciences acceptable toward a bachelor of arts degree, including courses in teacher education; a two-year program (i) which is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's degree or for a degree of associate in arts, and which may include courses in business education, secretarial training, and business administration, or (ii) in engineering, mathematics or the physical and biological sciences which is designed to prepare a student to work as a technician or at a semiprofessional level in engineering, sciences, or other technical fields which require the understanding and application of basic engineering, scientific, or mathematical principles or knowledge; educational programs of study as may be acceptable for a master's degree; and courses on an individual, noncredit basis to those desiring to further their education without seeking a degree.

The Washington Technical Institute is authorized to offer programs in vocational and technical education designed to fit individuals for useful employment in recognized occupations; and vocational and technical courses on an individual, noncredit basis.

WHY A LAND GRANT COLLEGE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA?

The enabling legislation establishing the Federal City College and the Washington Technical Institute is broad in scope, but land grant college status for the Federal City College is needed for three important reasons:

1. Land grant college status would, through the Morrill Act and the Bankhead-Jones Act, provide the funds necessary to broaden the curriculum so that the Federal City College could offer expanded and strengthened programs of urban extension courses.

For example, programs of study could be offered in environmental science, dietetics, child care, home economics, horticulture and youth development to name a few. Programs of study already established could be broadened to offer additional course work in physical sciences to train, at least on the two year level, young people interested in careers in agriculture, horticulture, and forestry in cooperation with the National Arboretum. Land grant college status would permit an expansion of curriculum offerings in mathematics and engineering.

2. Land grant college status would provide the necessary funds to extend the college into the community in many of the same ways that land grant colleges are serving in your respective States. The Federal City College would be a center for the use of citizens, community organizations and Government. It would be the catalyst for discussions between specialists and lay citizens of community problems to help plan for further development of the city. Noncredit course, seminars, and workshops for interested citizens to help them upgrade their skills