

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
Washington, March 19, 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 desires to report on H.R. 15183, a bill "To amend the District of Columbia Teachers' Salary Act of 1955 to provide salary increases for teachers and school officers in the District of Columbia public schools, and for other purposes."

The first section of the bill gives the legislation the title "District of Columbia Teachers' Salary Act Amendments of 1968."

Paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 2 of the bill provide for salary increases for teachers in two phases. The first phase pay schedule, to be effective on October 1, 1967, provides an average increase of 8.3 percent, costing approximately \$5.7 million per year. This schedule is identical to that proposed by the District Government in draft legislation submitted to the Congress by letter dated November 14, 1967 to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and introduced as H.R. 14051. The District accordingly supports the increases provided in the first phase pay schedule. With a January effective date, the cost of these increases for the last half of fiscal year 1968 would be approximately \$3.3 million. Funds have been reserved in the District of Columbia budget for fiscal year 1968 to pay the increases provided by this first phase pay schedule, assuming an effective date of January 1, 1968 and additional funds to pay these salaries retroactive to October 1, 1967 can be obtained from a number of the District's reserve accounts, provided that such amount is reimbursed in increased revenue provided in Fiscal Year 1969. The District's proposed budget for fiscal year 1969 also contains a reserve to cover teacher salaries during such fiscal year at the rates of this first phase schedule.

The second phase pay schedule, provided by paragraph (2) of section 2 of H.R. 15183, to be effective July 1, 1968, provides for an additional increase averaging 13.8 percent and costing an additional \$10.1 million per year. The Government of the District of Columbia, as was stated in the letter to you dated March 18, 1968 respecting District recommendations for pay increases for teachers, police, and firemen, supports a second phase pay schedule for teachers such as that contained in H.R. 14526 (rather than H.R. 15183), if made effective July 1, 1968. Additional funds have been sought and are being sought from the Congress to pay for these increases in Fiscal Year 1969.

Paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6) are substantially similar to provisions recommended by the District Government in its November 14, 1967 letter to the Speaker, and the District accordingly, for the reasons stated therein, endorses their enactment.

Paragraph (7) provides for a higher pay schedule for the summer and adult education schools, effective October 1, 1967. This pay schedule is identical to the one proposed by the District Government in its letter of November 14, 1967 to the Speaker, and accordingly the District endorses its inclusion in teacher pay legislation, but recommends that this pay increase be effective October 1, 1967, the effective date recommended by the District for general teacher pay increases.

Paragraph (8) provides a second phase pay increase for teachers in the summer and adult education schools, to be effective July 1, 1968 in conjunction with the general second phase pay raise contained in paragraph (2). The District recommends the adoption of the second phase pay increases provided by paragraph (8) of H.R. 14526, rather than those of H.R. 15183.

Sections 3 and 4 are standard provisions used in legislation providing for retroactive compensation and accordingly the District supports their inclusion in H.R. 15183.

Section 5 of the bill makes paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) of section 2 effective on the first day of the month following enactment of H.R. 15183. The District offers no objection to this provision but reiterates its recommendations that paragraphs (2) and (8) of H.R. 14526 be substituted for those of this bill.

The Government of the District of Columbia has been advised by the Bureau of the Budget that, from the standpoint of the Administration's program, there is no objection to the submission of this report to the Congress.

Sincerely ours,

THOMAS W. FLETCHER,
Assistant to the Commissioner
(For Walter E. Washington, Commissioner).