

the Master's Degree plus 60 hours. You will note that while these bills will, as far as the starting salary is concerned for the D.C. teachers, bring about a position of fair competition with the suburbs. When you get to the top of the annual increment on each sheet, however, you will find that the District still compares less favorably, particularly when we reach the top of the longevity steps. And this is an area in which I think we should concern ourselves. This is the reason why I am hopeful that the Committee will consider the schedule I have in H.R. 15747, which not only aid in the recruitment of young teachers, but also will help to keep these teachers after they have become more proficient by obtaining more education.

Actually, Mr. Chairman, even a teacher coming into the system at the \$7,000 schedule would have to stay here for 19 years, and obtain a Doctor's Degree, or a Master's degree plus 60 hours, in order to merely double his or her salary. That is not a very aggressive scale, when a person with that many years of service and that much additional education cannot do better than merely double his income within that time. So I feel that this is the minimum that we can do in trying to improve the educational standards here in our Nation's Capitol.

Mr. Chairman, I apologize for taking more of the Committee's time than I intended, but I do feel very strongly on this subject.

Mr. Dowdy. It helps to have the information about the increased revenues. I notice that we have a report or recommendation from the Commissioner that these bills—to pay for these bills—to increase the general sales tax from 3 to 4 percent, and to eliminate the present 1 percent tax on food sales, and to increase the sales tax on liquor sales from 4 percent to 5 percent. These three together would bring an estimated income totaling \$10.6 million (See p.95.)

Mr. Dowdy. Now, do you have a question, Mr. Sisk?

Mr. Sisk. No question, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Dowdy. Mr. Fuqua?

Mr. Fuqua. No questions.

Mr. Dowdy. Mr. Nelsen?

Mr. Nelsen. Mr. Chairman, do the provisions of the last D.C. Revenue Act that we passed, authorize adequate funds or will it be necessary to authorize additional funding? I think we should research that for the information of the Committee members, but no doubt that point will be developed as we proceed with the hearing.

Mr. Washington. I think it will.

Mr. Dowdy. I am certain it will.

We have a statement of Congressman Machen, which we will insert in the record at this point.

STATEMENT OF HON. HERVEY G. MACHEN, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
FROM THE STATE OF MARYLAND

Mr. Chairman, the President outlined a broad program for strengthening the educational system of the District of Columbia in his recent message on the State of the City. Today, the House District Committee is holding hearings on legislation which I believe is a "must" if this program is to be carried out and achieve long range success. The legislation to which I refer would provide for substantial increases in the salaries paid to District of Columbia teachers. Passage of this legislation is necessary so that the City can become more competitive with other jurisdictions in the area and throughout the country in recruiting top-notch personnel.