

HEARINGS AND PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

SEC. 5. (a) For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this joint resolution the Secretary, or on the authorization of the Secretary any officer or employee of the Department of Transportation, may hold such hearings, take such testimony, sit and act at such times and places, administer such oaths, and require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, correspondence, memorandums, contracts, agreements, or other records as the Secretary, or such officer or employee deems advisable.

(b) In order to carry out the provisions of this joint resolution, the Secretary or his duly authorized agent shall at all reasonable times have access to, and for the purposes of examination the right to copy, any documentary evidence of any corporation, business firm, institution, or individual having materials or information relevant to the study authorized by this joint resolution.

(c) The Secretary is authorized to require, by general or special orders, any corporation, business firm, or individual or any class of such corporation, firm, or individuals to file, in such form as the Secretary may prescribe, reports or answers in writing to specific questions relating to the study authorized by this joint resolution. Such reports and answers shall be made under oath or otherwise, and shall be filed with the Secretary within such reasonable period as the Secretary may prescribe.

(d) Any of the district courts of the United States within the jurisdiction of which an inquiry is carried on may, in the case of contumacy or refusal to obey a subpoena or order of the Secretary or such officer or employee issued under subsection (a) or subsection (c) of this section, issue an order requiring compliance therewith; and any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof.

(e) Witnesses summoned pursuant to this section shall be paid the same fees and mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United States.

TERMINATION

SEC. 6. The authority of the Secretary under this joint resolution shall terminate ninety days after the submission of his final report under section 1(b).

APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZED

SEC. 7. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated, without fiscal year limitation, such sums, not to exceed \$2,000,000, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this joint resolution.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, D.C., March 22, 1968.

HON. HARLEY O. STAGGERS,
Chairman, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,
House of Representatives, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request of December 19, 1967, for the views of the Bureau of the Budget on H.J. Res. 958, a joint resolution "To authorize the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a comprehensive study and investigation of the existing compensation system for motor vehicle accident losses, and for other purposes."

H.J. Res. 958 would implement, generally, the President's proposal for a comprehensive study of the problems relating to automobile insurance as set forth in his Consumer Message of February 6, 1968. In testimony before your Committee on this measure, the Secretary of Transportation recommended certain amendments relating to the time required to complete the proposed study and the necessary authorization for appropriations.

We concur in the views expressed by Secretary Boyd and recommend favorable consideration of H.J. Res. 958 with the amendments he suggested. Enactment of this legislation would be in accord with the program of the President.

Sincerely yours,

WILFRED H. ROMMEL,
Assistant Director, Office of Legislative Reference.