

Commissioner WASHINGTON. Not specifically called for, but if you established it, you would certainly have certain rulemaking responsibilities.

Mr. BROWN. Well, Mr. Commissioner, my only objection—my only concern, and it is not a deep enough concern I guess to object to the plan, is that the rulemaking and regulation powers are placed in the hands of the Commissioner, and there is no citizens advisory group called forth in the plan. Now, Mr. Thomas recommends eight objectives for this governmental change which I think are all laudible.

Commissioner WASHINGTON. I do, too.

Mr. BROWN. Will you accept them?

Commissioner WASHINGTON. Absolutely.

Mr. BROWN. Will the next Mayor accept them?

Mr. BLATNIK. He cannot answer that.

Commissioner WASHINGTON. I do not think you expect me—

Mr. BROWN. That is exactly the point. I do not think you can speak for the next Mayor.

Commissioner WASHINGTON. Well, I would not think I could.

Mr. BLATNIK. The Chair would like to object here. The Mayor did not propose to speak for any future Mayor—and I am sure it was intended that way with your question—any more than we can speculate on what the next Congress may or may not do.

Mr. BROWN. Yes, sir. That is the point I am trying to make.

Mr. BLATNIK. I think the record should show—I think it is known to those who are familiar with reorganization plans—that there is nothing to prevent any Member of Congress or any succeeding Congress to introduce any other legislation to improve, broaden, or clarify the organizational structure of any part of the District of Columbia. There is nothing to prevent any future administration from coming up with any further amending or clarifying reorganization proposals. Is that not right, Mr. Hughes?

Mr. HUGHES. That it certainly is, Mr. Chairman. I would like to suggest a line of approach here. I think the major point in question is the nature of the “regulations” that we are talking about, and I would be happy to work with you, Mr. Chairman, and Mr. Brown and the committee staff, to examine in some detail the kinds of things that we are talking about here. And I believe very sincerely that we can satisfy you that these are administrative things and they are the kind of things that this Council and other city councils would not want to be burdened with.

I suggest that as a line of approach here. I think the basic question really is what we are talking about by way of “regulations,” and I think we are talking about very pedestrian “regulations” indeed.

Mr. BLATNIK. Mr. Brown.

Mr. BROWN. Yes, if you will permit me, the point I am trying to make is a very simple one. It is that if we are going to have a government of laws and not of men, then we must write into the law that which we would like to have the law contain. And it is my feeling that a step which puts the regulation and rulemaking power completely in the hands of a single administrator is not a good fundamental step toward representative government.

Now, I would also submit, in response to a comment you made, Mr. Hughes, that the idea of a government in this country whereby the Executive initiates and the Legislature vetoes is a good, strong