

I personally have never argued with our neighbors that they were not right in considering this. It is my feeling that my home county should not become a burden to our neighboring county. However, I am a great advocate of hospitals and have a great affection for these institutions of learning here which are interested in this.

However, I think we will have to try to in some way reach a solution other than testifying before Congress for three days and getting funds from the taxpayers of North Carolina and the 50 States.

Mr. GUDE. One of the reasons I am such a strong supporter of the impacted aid bill is because I think this is a great help to communities such as yours, those which suffer with military installations. I think this also can be extended to other things such as hospitals and other burdens put on the community because of the location of these Federal installations. I agree.

I also might say that I feel many citizens in our area do not have enough community spirit and do not support some of the facilities we have here, and Children's Hospital is a good example. We have a wonderful modern facility for children which more of our citizens should be aware of and support because you can get the best medical care for a child there than anywhere else in the world.

Mr. WHITENER. Let me say this. I voted against the impacted aid bill a few days ago because it has been my experience that every time the government starts to cut out one phase of any one of these operations that the people say are such a burden to them, we have delegations from North Carolina of people wanting us to talk to the Department of Defense to preserve them. If you started to move one of these agencies of government out of Maryland or Virginia they would be over here marching on the Capitol protesting that it is a great burden.

Mr. SISK. If the Chair might intervene, this legislation will be discussed in executive session. I appreciate the attitude of my good friends from North Carolina and Maryland.

Mr. Hannan, we appreciate very much your being here this morning to give your testimony.

I would like to proceed now with Dr. Ecker, Past President of the D.C. Medical Society, and I understand a group may come up with Dr. Ecker. The House has gone into session but I would like to proceed, if we could, and see how nearly through we could get this morning.

Mr. BUCHER. Mr. Chairman, immediately after Dr. Ecker finishes his testimony we can present the testimony of the Hospital Council of the National Capital Area.

Mr. SISK. Very well, Dr. Ecker, you may proceed.

STATEMENT OF DR. HENRY D. ECKER, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT, MEDICAL SOCIETY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dr. ECKER. Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I am here to present the position of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia with reference to H.R. 6526. The Medical Society of the District of Columbia wishes to be placed on record as endorsing HR 6526, the "District of Columbia Medical Facilities Construction Act of 1967,"