

zona, and Mr. Broyhill of Virginia; and the introduction of H.R. 14448 by Subcommittee Chairman Basil L. Whitener.

SUPPORT OF BILL

For many years the American Federation of Government Employees has felt that the law enforcement in the District of Columbia should be under one head. We believe that this approach of having a Commissioner of Police appointed is a good one. As provided in Sec. 2 of the Bill:

"(a) There are transferred to the Police Commissioner the functions, powers, and duties of—(1) the Commissioner of the District of Columbia and the District of Columbia Council with respect to the Metropolitan Police force; (2) the Secretary of the Interior with respect to the United States Park Police in the District of Columbia; (3) the Secretary of the Treasury with respect to the White House Police; (4) the Sergeants at Arms of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Capitol Police Board with respect to the Capitol police; and (5) the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution with respect to the National Zoological Park police force.

"(b) The Police Commissioner may establish such review boards as he deems advisable. The Police Commissioner may appoint and fix the compensation of such personnel as he deems advisable to carry out his functions, powers, and duties under this Act, subject to the provisions of Title 5, United States Code, relating to appointments in the competitive service, classification, and General Schedule pay rates.

"(c) As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Police Commissioner shall make recommendations to Congress for the enactment of such legislation as may be necessary to make the police forces under his jurisdiction subject to the same provisions for appointments, promotions, dismissals, compensation, retirement, and similar matters.

"(d) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to—(1) authorize the Police Commissioner to combine any of the police forces under his jurisdiction or transfer any officer or member of a police force under his jurisdiction to a position in another police force under his jurisdiction without the prior consent of such officer or member; or (2) affect the rights and privileges under personnel laws and regulations in effect before the date of the enactment of this Act of any officer or member of a police force under the jurisdiction of the Police Commissioner."

BENEFITS FROM THIS BILL

We are confident that the enactment of this legislation would eliminate the many barriers and pitfalls we have read about in the newspapers concerning our law enforcement department and that it will permit uniformity throughout the District of Columbia. Likewise there would be one set of rules and regulations, which would in our opinion improve the morale of the personnel of all these groups and would tend to make law enforcement much more efficient. We trust that this Committee will approve legislation along these lines and let it be tried for a few years. We predict that there will be no desire to