

to ask other people. But in any case, he certainly would come under the purview of this law and other laws.

Mr. HARSHA. Here is another man who says he is psychologist certified by Maryland and D.C. Is there a D.C. Board that certifies psychologists?

Dr. LEGAULT. Not to my knowledge.

Mr. WALKER. Dr. Cummings. Would you identify yourself for the record, sir?

Dr. CUMMINGS. I am Dr. Jonathan W. Cummings of the D.C. Psychological Association. We have attempted to police ourselves in a nonstatutory certification manner. This is nowhere near as complete as the type of Act that we are presenting here today because it is voluntary. It protects the title "psychologist", of anyone who wishes to have it protected. I think many of the gentlemen or persons who represent themselves in the yellow pages are not those who would seek this kind of nonstatutory certification because, for instance, the degree that you have named is generally believed to be obtainable from a diploma mill, that is, obtainable without any well worked-out course of study in the nature of behavioral problems, et cetera. I believe I am safe in saying that one of the main purposes of our actions here is to secure an Act or a law which would prevent this kind of potential charlatanism, potential bilking of the public. After all, our No. 1 aim as proponents of S. 1864 and H.R. 10407 is to protect the public of the District of Columbia.

Mr. HARSHA. You say this certification is voluntary. Do you take an examination?

Dr. CUMMINGS. Yes, there is an examination.

Mr. HARSHA. Who conducts it?

Dr. CUMMINGS. The D.C. Psychological Association; actually the Board of Examiners, which is a separately constituted group but sponsored by the D.C. Psychological Association.

Mr. HARSHA. Thank you.

Mr. WALKER. Thank you, Mr. Harsha.

Would anyone at the table or anyone here care to contribute anything further at this particular time? Dr. Cummings, do any of your group have comments to make for the record respecting the proposed amendments, or otherwise?

Dr. CUMMINGS. I would be happy to start talking. Dr. Legault, did you have the floor? Is it all right if I commence here, Doctor?

Dr. LEGAULT. No, I do not believe I have the floor. I believe the subcommittee designates who has the floor.

Dr. CUMMINGS. Very well. You were asked a question and I did not want to butt in, of course.

I wonder if I might say, sir, at the outset that, unfortunately, members of my organization were not here on June 3rd when the Psychiatric Society and the Psychoanalytical Society representatives were heard. Therefore, I would like to make just a comment or two about their testimony which I have had the opportunity to read.

Mr. WALKER. Go right ahead.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Dr. CUMMINGS. This will be very brief, and then we will get to the business at hand. I would like to express the keen disappointment of