

1 I do think that home rule should be broad with respect to
2 any local government and I would like to say again that I
3 am most grateful to you and to your Committee for per-
4 mitting me to be with you today and I certainly would be
5 willing to assist in any way possible at any time in the
6 future.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Dr. Loevy?

8 DR. LOEVY: Could I just ask you one question
9 before you go, for a point of information?

10 MR. THOMPSON: Yes, sir.

11 DR. LOEVY: There has been some talk in the
12 Committee of eliminating all cities and making Baltimore
13 County a home rule county; in other words, having just
14 twenty-four units of local government, twenty-three
15 counties and Baltimore City as a county. As a principal
16 spokesman for the municipalities in Maryland, what do you
17 think of this idea?

18 MR. THOMPSON: I would think that it would be
19 quite unlikely that a satisfactory solution to the prob-
20 lems of local government in the State of Maryland would
21 be found in any such highly simplified proposal. I think