Budget Reform Contains Time Bomb

Vice President To Be At Legislative Meeting

Congress To Get Allied Services Legislation

Debate Expected Soon

House Interior Committee Passes Land Use Bill
Cole Named Domestic Affairs Assistant

President Nixon has announced the appointment of Kenneth R. Cole, Jr., as Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs. Mr. Cole will continue to serve as Executive Director of the Domestic Council and as liaison with county, city and state governments and their national associations.

The Domestic Council, which is comprised of department and agency heads concerned with domestic issues, is responsible for the development and coordination of the President's domestic policies. The President has directed Mr. Cole to work closely with the Vice President, who serves as Vice Chairman of the Domestic Council, other members of the Cabinet, federal agency heads, members of Congress, and county, city and state officials.

Cole has served as Director of the Domestic Council since December 14, 1972. Prior to that he served as Deputy Director of the Domestic Council and Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs. Cole was Special Assistant to the President from January to November 1969. He was an executive of the J. Walter Thompson Company in New York City from 1965 to 1968 and joined the President's campaign in February 1968.

He was born in New York City on January 27, 1938, and grew up in Scarsdale, New York, and Westfield, New Jersey. Cole received his B.S. degree in business administration from Bucknell University in 1959. After graduation he served as Assistant to the Vice President for the Elizabethtown Gas Company, Elizabeth, New Jersey. From 1961 to 1965 he served in the U.S. Navy, rising to the rank of Lieutenant.

Mark Your Calendars!

NACo's Legislative Conference

Featuring...

- A meeting with Vice President Gerald R. Ford.
- Major Addresses by Administration and Congressional Leaders.
- In-depth presentations, analysis, and discussion of major legislative proposals, including Community Development Block Grants, Social Services, Health Care, Tax Reform, Highway & Transit, Manpower Training, Law Enforcement Assistance, and others.
- Meetings with Congressmen.
- Strategy sessions on the passage and implementation of "County-Oriented" Federal programs.
- There will also be a meeting of County Information Officers on Friday, March 1; a County Health Officers Caucus on Feb. 26; Steering Committee meetings on Feb. 26; a meeting of County Civil Attorneys on Feb. 25-26; Health Task Force meeting on Feb. 25; and a special seminar on elections held jointly by the American University Institute of Election Administration and the National Association of County Recorders and Clerks on Feb. 28-March 2.

New Domestics Affairs Head: Kenneth Cole (left) has been named Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs. Last year Cole addressed NACo's Council of Elected County Executives, shown here with Edward V. Regan (right) County Executive of Erie County, N.Y., now Chairman for Public Transportation on NACo's Transportation Steering Committee.

LEAA To Put Emphasis On Victims And Witnesses

by Duane Bultz
Criminal Justice Project

The Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) will put a "new emphasis" on victims of crime, potential victims and witnesses. LEAA Administrator Donald Santarelli has announced.

Half the trial dismissals in the United States are laid to witnesses' fear of reprisals by criminals, he told the National Conference of State Criminal Justice Planning Administration's meeting in Williamsburg, Va., recently.

He advocated the creation of "witness protection units" in police departments, as well as more involvement of citizens in diversion, probation and parole programs. A recent study showed that jurors spend up to 62 percent of their time in waiting rooms, are poorly informed of criminal procedures and are not treated with the kind of respect that encourages cooperation.

Santarelli further said that "nobody represents the citizen" in the fight against crime. He also asked each state to establish a "process" for adapting standards and goals to guide implementation of the block grant program.

Deputy Administrator Charles Work, responsible for day-to-day administration of LEAA in Washington, D.C., announced that the new state planning agency guidelines state only a preference for including legislative and executive officials of general purpose local governments on substate regional planning boards instead of making a 51 percent majority of these officials a requirement for regional boards. NACo has urged the 51 percent majority requirement.

The guideline will permit any local elected official to qualify under the 51 percent requirement. However, Work recognized the need to involve general purpose units of local government in LEAA planning and action grant programs.

Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. (R-Md.), pointed out that about 50 percent of all crime is committed by juveniles. He told the participants that "a spectrum of facilities is needed" to deal with juvenile delinquents and suggested federal legislation for a comprehensive juvenile justice program (now pending before the Senate Judiciary Committee), improved coordination among federal agencies and more attention to juvenile justice programs in state comprehensive plans.

Also on the agenda were several workshops dealing with correctional, parole systems, drafting, crime statistics, standards and goals strategies, and financial management. To answer criticisms by the Office of Management and Budget and by Congress that federal appropriations are slow reaching states and local action programs, the SPA conference is conducting a study on fund flow.

The conference is composed of the state planning agencies which develop comprehensive plans for distributing block grant funds within 55 states and territories. Richard Wertz, Maryland SPA Director, is chairman of the conference.

During the past five and one half years, LEAA has distributed nearly $3 billion to states, counties and cities to fight crime.

Registration Form

NACo's LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE
February 26-28, 1974
Shoreham Hotel
Washington, D.C.

Name: ___________________________
Title: ___________________________

County/Organization: ___________________________

Address: ___________________________
City: ___________________________ State: __________ Zip: ______

Please reserve a room for me for _______ nights.
Single room: _______ Double room: _______

Arriving date: ___________ Time: ______
Room rates: Single $22, 26, 28, 30, 34
Double $26, 32, 36, 40
(Suites available)

Return to: Reservations Department, Shoreham Hotel
Connecticut Avenue at Calvert St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20008
Phone: (202) 234-0700

The meeting will open with a Congressional reception on Tuesday evening, Feb. 26, and end with a general session on Thursday afternoon.
Health Care Developments

1974 Is The Year of Health

by Mike Gemmell
Human Resources Center

Several observers of the Washington scene predict that 1974 is the "Year of Health." This prediction is based on several developments including the expiration on June 30 of all major health legislation and the expiration that next to the "energy crisis" national health insurance will be the Nixon Administration's top domestic priority.

The main issues involved in the formulation of national health care policy are: health services (maternal and child health, family planning, environmental health, neighborhood health centers, mental health, migrant health, etc.); health planning (comprehensive health planning, Hill-Burton facility construction, regional medical programs); health manpower (health manpower training, nurse training, public health training, allied health); and national health insurance. Each one affects the delivery of health services at the county level.

The four have been discussed in previous issues of this newspaper (see Nov. 30, Dec. 28, and Jan. 14 issues).

Current developments that impact on counties include several pieces of legislation that have been signed into law or being implemented through administrative action.

Signed into law last November, the Emergency Medical Services System Act authorizes $25 million for the next three years for projects designed to improve the availability of emergency medical assistance. It is important to note that the law gives priority to applications submitted by local governments. For more information and a summary of the EMS law, contact NACO.

Health Maintenance Organizations

The Health Maintenance Organization Act of 1973 establishes a five-year, $375 million program for the support of pre-paid group practices of medical care. This law affects counties in two ways: as a provider of health care, counties are eligible to sponsor and establish an HMO; and, as an employer having 25 or more employees and providing health insurance as an employee benefit, counties are required to make HMO enrollment available where such group practices are available.

The law also preempts state laws which may prevent or hamper the development of pre-paid group practices. A national conference being planned this spring by the Group Health Association of America will focus on ways to implement the HMO law and public organizations and agencies to benefit from HMO sponsorships. For more information on the conference please contact NACO.

Professional Standard Review Organizations

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare has released its proposed designated Professional Standard Review Organization (PSRO) areas. The comment period has been extended until February 5.

As proposed, there would be 192 areas in which Professional Standard Review Organization (PSRO) would be organized by 1976. A PSRO is composed of practitioners and is responsible for reviewing services provided under Medicaid and Medicare. The PSRO law was passed in an attempt to cut down costs and improve the quality of care.

On a similar note, HEME published proposed utilization review regulations effective in the Federal Register on December 16, 1976. The Federal regulations require pre-admission certification for all elective admissions to hospitals effective in April 1977. The ultimate plan is to extend the utilization review provisions across the total field of health care. County officials wishing to comment should contact NACO immediately.

The January 16 Federal Register contains proposed regulations governing periodic interim payment to Medicare providers such as public hospitals, skilled nursing facilities. The January 14 edition contains final regulations for skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities, and nursing home health agencies. Those wishing to comment should contact our office.

Final Phase IV health regulations will be published in the Federal Register this week. These regulations will cover public hospitals, long-term care institutions and HMOs. The Cost of Living Council final regulations cover price increases allowable for federal health care providers.

In other developments, the House approved this week several health bills. The most important to county officials are:

- Public Health Services Act Amendments (H.R. 13057) recodifies the old law and makes no substantive changes in the law.
- Health Statistics and Research (H.R. 11365) bill would create a single federal agency to deal with research and compilation of health statistics (NACO is negotiating greater involvement for county health officials in the federal statistics gathering effort).
- Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act Amendments bill (H.R. 11387) would create a federal substance abuse and mental health agency. The bill would authorize a two year, $294 million for combating alcohol abuse and alcoholism.
- The money would be allocated as follows: $160 million a year as matching grants to states in FY 1974 and 1975; $30 million in FY 1976 and 1977 to States to implement the Model Uniform Alcoholism Act; and $60 million in FY 1975 and 757 million in FY 1976 in grants to contracts to local governments and non-profit private groups.

This House-passed bill is a scaled-down version of the Senate-passed bill (S. 1182) which has strongly supported the passage of alcoholic legislation in the past.

the Ballot Box

National Association of County Recorders & Clerks
American University Institute of Election Administration

Congressional interest in the cost of administering elections has been increased by a recent proposal for a national presidential primary election; uniform regional presidential primary contests; the direct election of the president with a contingency run-off in case no contender receives 40 percent of the vote; and other ideas which may include a national election separate from state and local contests.

It is difficult to estimate the cost of these elections which detail completely the costs involved in conducting an election. Financial planning for elections and election functions are frequently scattered in many departments of county government. Accounting methods and election cycles differ from jurisdiction to jurisdiction even within the same state. Some election activities may be paid for by the state rather than by the county government. Other activities may be performed without charge to the county by political parties.

Attempting to answer the question, "How much does an election cost?" is much like trying to answer the question, "How much does a boat cost?" No two elections are identical, even in the same jurisdiction.

Among the variables to be considered are the size and complexity of the ballot, the method of voting, the requirements of law for election day personnel, the size of the district, the size of the jurisdiction, the laws on recounts, and a host of other factors which change from election to election.

Election officials responsible for budget requests usually consider the "costs of elections" to be budgeted only and frequently do not take into account the value of personnel and services paid for or provided by other units of government or by the political parties. Sometimes capital investments, major equipment and voting machines are considered short term expenses even though these costs may provide benefits over long periods of time.

Similarly, the cost of voter registration is a topic of great debate. How much it costs to register voters depends very much on what is required by law.

For example, when there was no requirement for voter registration prior to election day in many parts of the state, a new law providing for registration greatly increased costs in these areas. A similar law, applicable in parts of Maryland, is expected to reduce expenses. The previous Maryland law had required two registrars, one from each party, to obtain the information from each prospective registrant.

There are great variations in the cost of voter registration between counties in California depending upon the rate per name paid by the county to the deputy registration officials. The purge process is a major item in some jurisdictions but may be almost totally ignored and hence of little expense to others.

The factors that enter into the costs of elections are the subject of a recent publication written by this columnist for the National Municipal League. Unfortunately, this brief study is unable to provide a definitive answer to the question about the costs of elections. It does identify the elements in the process of selecting costs and discusses how they are treated differently in localities across the country.


Vultures Find Courthouse Attractive

Each day maintenance men climb to the roof of the Dade County (Fla.) Courthouse where they flap their arms, wave brooms, sticks and rolled newspapers in a vain attempt to dissuade dozens of vultures from roosting on the building.

For 30 years the roof of the 28-story courthouse has been a favorite vulture perch for the vultures which fly south in October to avoid the winter cold.

The maintenance men say the vultures cause problems because their feathers clog drainage pipes along the edge of the roof, occasionally causing flooding into the floor below.

The men are shy about discussing what they call their vulture "elimination measures."

But each morning the building staff goes up to the roof and spends several minutes whisking, swearing, waving and shouting at the vultures.

"For 30 or 40 years people have been making jokes about them," said one maintenance man who asked not to be identified. "But it gives them something to talk about.

Jeff Simon, who studied the habits of the vultures while he was an undergraduate at the University of Miami, said the birds arrive at the courthouse each morning about 30 minutes before sunrise.

They sit almost exactly three feet apart and remain in their favorite roosting spot when a new arrival throws off the pattern.

The vultures take a lunch-time break at a sewage plant on near-by Miami Key before returning to the roof in midafternoon.

When the sun begins to go down they head back to the roof to get the night's rest.

Dr. Oscar Owre, an ornithologist at the university, thinks the birds add a distinctive touch to the courthouse.

"They don't bother anyone really," he said. "And what other courthouse in the world can claim to have vultures on its roof?"

Labor Gets List of Eligible Areas, Job Funds

State employment security agencies submitted a list of areas eligible for FY 1974 public service employment funds to the Department of Labor on January 21.

Pushing the agencies for rapid action, the Department requested reports on all jurisdictions eligible for prime sponsorship under new manpower legislation. In addition, the agencies were to report unemployment figures for sub-jurisdictional areas that received funds under Section 6 of the Emergency Employment Act.

The Labor Department expects to publish the list of eligible areas on February 1 in the Federal Register.

Counties suffering from increased unemployment since the most recent allocation of EEA funds may want to contact the employment service or the Assistant Regional Director for Manpower (ARDM) to insure that they are included in the allocations.

The Labor Department has $250 million available as of January 1976.

The current list of 52 eligible counties contains an area which experienced an 6.5 percent or more unemployment rate for any three consecutive months during the six-month period of June 1974 through November 1976.
Problems In Health

There are several bills being contemplated by Congress or the Administration that would legislate controls out of the health planning and regulation field.

Although many proposals differ greatly in many respects, they all advocate the creation of a private, non-profit, planning network designed to coordinate and control the delivery of health services at the local level.

These non-profit structures, dominated by health providers and consumers, would be supreme in reviewing and approving all federal supported health projects and programs. Only one-third of the policy-making body would be composed of "elected" officials. Apparently any elected officials will do irrespective of his responsibilities in the health field.

Letters To NACo

Dear Bernie:

I read with interest your column, "American Counties Today", in the December 21, 1973 issue of County News, particularly your strong views on removing the anti-pollution devices that have been placed on automobile engines.

While I agree with you that the devices represent what I would call a "band-aid" approach to a serious problem -- and therefore at best of only limited effectiveness for the purpose they were intended, and certainly troublesome in light of today's energy realities -- I was disappointed to see you drop the subject at that point. Your argument would carry more impact, it seems to me, if you had supplemented it with a call for getting quickly on with the job of cleaning up the basic dirty engine so that neither the air nor gas mileage would suffer.

Worsening one problem to reduce another seems to me to make neither good policy nor good sense, and I look forward with interest to your further writings on this particular subject.

As always I enjoy reading your newspaper and look forward to future editions.

Gerald P. McCarthy, Executive Director, Council of Metropolitan Government on the Environment
Richmond, Va.

Dear Bernie:

I'm writing to emphasize how strongly I feel toward the Trust Fund for monies for mass transit systems -- buses and railroads. It is not realistic to

jelously hoard this money just for highways when reasonable people must know that energy crisis is real and will be with us for years to come, even if Arab oil is released. It's high time the public is told the truth!

I do not, very frankly, appreciate the take off again statements that all will be fine given a few years to get over it. We must change our whole life style and renounce the cheap throw-away habits that have made us worship luxury and wastefulness, and it makes no sense to build more and more super highways when we can't fuel all the vehicles we own now.

It is going to cause hardships, but the auto industry can swing to railroad passenger cars and light, clean buses, and we'll just have to use them.

America should never allow itself to be dependent on any foreign nation for it's economic survival. What a sad commentary it is on our times to realize that so few can cause so much hardship (apologies to Winston Churchill).

The number one priority though is not energy -- it is credibility of those in high public office. We must restore this confidence. People who lose confidence in their elected officials, lose confidence in their government and eventually in themselves, and this is not happen in America.

William H. Bartles, County Executive
Dutchess County, N.Y.

New Directions For LEAA

Donald Santarelli, the new Administrator of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA), recently told the nation's state criminal justice planning administrators that the LEAA program would focus "new emphasis" on helping and protecting victims and witnesses of crime. Santarelli maintains that "nobody represents the citizen" in the battle against crime and suggests that criminal justice agencies take immediate steps to better involve, protect and represent citizen interests.

In the past, he explained to one reporter before the meeting, "the police beat the drum for the police, the correctional people beat the drum for the correctional programs, the courts never beat the drum for anything and nobody beats the drum for the citizens."

Santarelli's call for increased citizen involvement is a point well taken, but it should be recognized that the chief elected officials of general purpose, local government represent all the citizens in the community and are politically held accountable for the success or failure of the system. In addition, these officials have political, as well as administrative responsibility, for public health, mental health, welfare, education and manpower programs operating throughout the country.

These are programs which increasingly must provide support services to the criminal justice system. It is for these and other reasons that NACo has urged that requirements be imposed on the states to insure the intimate involvement of general elected officials in the criminal justice planning process.

NACo fully shares the Administrator's concern for victims of crime and for protection of witnesses. We are most anxious to see meaningful steps taken to both insure and protect our system of justice -- and that certainly includes victims and witnesses. We would hope, however, that LEAA's current efforts for police and corrections reform will in no way be diminished under this new initiative. The issue, after all, is not corrections or police reform versus better treatment for victims or witnesses. Reform will require new initiatives in each of these areas.

EPA Defers Air Source Rule

The Environmental Protection Agency has deferred the date of review of "indirect" or "complex" air source regulations until January 3, 1974. Under these proposed regulations, states will be required to review, prior to construction, those facilities which create air pollution by generating significant amounts of auto traffic. Final regulations will be promulgated on or before January 31, 1974.

In addition, EPA has withdrawn all surcharge regulations from the transportation control plans established to lower urban air pollution levels. Parking surcharges, in different forms, had been required in Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, Sacramento and the San Joaquin Valley, Calif.; Boston, Mass.; Newark, N.J.; and the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

Both of these steps were in response to the draft report on the Energy Emergency Act that is now before Congress. Although an energy bill has not yet passed, EPA felt that the provisions regarding the transportation controls and indirect source regulations should be regarded as firm congressional guidance on these issues.

EPA will now make a study of the necessity and desirability of parking surcharges for Congress. However, the agency's action does not preclude states and localities from establishing surcharges.

Coastal Zone Papers Available

The Office of Coastal Zone Management of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is in the process of developing guidelines for state and local governments on the criteria to be used by the Secretary of Commerce in evaluating state coastal zone management programs submitted for his approval pursuant to the terms of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-583).

The office held a series of public meetings during December and January in many coastal states around the country in order to permit the various coastal states and interests, members of the public and involved federal agencies to participate in the preparation of the guidelines. In addition, the office is accepting comments submitted by mail or before March 15, 1974.

The Office of Coastal Environment has had a "working paper" prepared under contract to serve as a preliminary vehicle for discussion on the subject.

Persons interested in getting copies of this paper and or commenting on them should contact the Office of Coastal Zone Management, c/o Congress, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Rockville, Md. 20852, (301) 468-8520.

Hillenbrand's Washington Report

202/785-9591
Counties seek flexibility through structural changes

by Florence Zoller
Research Associate

Decisive action in encouraging counties to change their structures is emerging from 8 state legislatures and one Presidential commission.

In a total of 31 states, where one state law mandated one structure, the commission, counties may now change to another plan where an appointed manager is responsible for administration of the county (council-manager plan), or where an elected executive is responsible for administration (council-elected executive plan). In both of these alternatives, major responsibility for policy making rests with the governing board; however, both the manager and the elected executive may suggest policy to the board.

Minnesota, Montana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Utah, New Jersey and Wisconsin were the most recent states to reverse the 340 year old American tradition of the plural executive county governing body. The U.S. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, the Presidential Commission, has gone even farther in its recommendations for urban counties in suggesting that counties comprising most of a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (See related story on this page) must adopt either a council-manager or council-executive plan (see November, 1973 New County Times). ACIR is working on 13 different pieces of suggested county legislation, including optional forms legislation.

How to Change

Optional forms authority falls roughly in two categories, states where the county governing board may change to some other plan of government through resolution, and those where a voter referendum is required for any change in form. Listed below is a state by state description of each optional forms authority. Immediately following those descriptions is a summary of (A) states which have no optional forms authority for counties, (B) states where optional plans are available only through voter referendum, and (C) states where an optional plan may be adopted by resolution of the county board.

Optional Forms Authority

Alabama — No optional forms authority. However, the county judge (county commission chairman) may serve as a weak executive in some cases.

Arizona — Administrative assistant and council-manager forms may be adopted by board resolution; although no specific state optional forms legislation exists, counties have construed state constitution to mean that they may hire any officers necessary to carry out duties of the board.

Arkansas — No optional forms authority. However, county judge may serve as a weak executive in some cases.

California — 1972 constitutional amendment allows for county charters.

Colorado — No optional forms authority; special state legislation needed for reorganization of New Castle and Susquehanna counties.

Florida — Non-charter counties may adopt administrator form by ordinance.

Georgia — Counties may adopt council-manager plan by resolution.

Hawaii — All four counties are chartered, utilizing council-elected executive plan.

Idaho — No optional forms authority.

Illinois — One optional form (council-elected executive) available through voter referendum.

Indiana — One optional form, council-manager, or council-elected executive available through resolution.

Iowa — No optional forms authority.

Kansas — No optional forms authority.

Kentucky — No optional forms authority. However, county judge may serve as a weak executive in some cases.

Louisiana — Charter authority does not prescribe specific optional forms. Other (non-charter) counties may only change their form through special state legislation.

Maine — No optional forms authority.

Maryland — Charter authority does not prescribe specific optional forms. Other counties have adopted council-manager plan on the basis of constitutional authority to hire whatever officers are deemed necessary to carry out duties of the county board.

Massachusetts — No optional forms authority.

Michigan — Two optional forms, council-manager or council-elected executive available either by board resolution or by voter petition and referendum.

Minnesota — Five optional plans. County board may adopt any one by resolution. The board may also set up voter referendum to confirm their choice of plan or give the voters the opportunity of selecting one of the 5 forms.

Mississippi — No optional forms authority.

Montana — Partially implemented 1972 constitutional amendment allows for three optional plans of county government. Also provides for charter

Nebraska — No optional plans available. County may attempt to get around the lack of authority by hiring an administrative assistant to all counties.

See "Optional Forms," Page Two

This is the first of a four-part series on optional forms of county government. The March issue will focus on the Council (Commission) — Administrator form.
The County Sheriff

The sheriff, being an elective officer, does not automatically fall under state or local civil service or merit laws. However, the sheriff’s departments in many metropolitan counties, particularly in the states of California, New York and Texas, have adopted a civil service system. In 64 counties, the law enforcement function has been vested in a county police force. Such counties as New Castle County, Del.; Fayette County, Ky.; Montgomery County, Md.; Allegheny County, Pa., etc., county police have been established and are responsible to the elected governing officials. In these counties, they act as a line department of county government.

The third function of the office of the sheriff is corrections. In almost all counties, the sheriff has jurisdiction over prisoners in court or in the county jail. They administer and supervise the jail in all phases of its operation. As the field of corrections has been recognized as a highly specialized and technical service, a few sheriffs departments have hired professional corrections administrators. In other jurisdictions, the corrections function has been moved into a county department of corrections. Counties in Washington, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Missouri have changed the structure in this way. In these agencies, the director is a professional administrator and is responsible to the elected leadership of the county.

Optional forms

Continued from Page One

Pennsylvania — Optional forms available through charter adoption only. 
South Carolina — 1972 state constitutional amendment provides for optional forms authority. Proposed implementing legislation has 5 optional plans, two of which (council-manager and council-elected executive) require voter referendum. Other 3 plans may be adopted by board resolution.
South Dakota — New local government article of constitution passed in 1972 gives counties authority to adopt charters; no optional forms are prescribed.
Tennessee — Council-manager plan available; referendum required to establish position. As yet, united position.
Texas — No optional forms authority.
Utah — 1972 constitution gave optional forms authority; state implementing legislation set up 12 optional forms available to all counties upon voter approval.
Virginia — No optional forms authority.
Washington — Alternate forms available through adoption of charter only. Other counties must obtain special, state legislation in order to change structure.
West Virginia — No optional forms authority.
Wyoming — No optional forms authority.

A. In these 17 states, counties must operate under the commission (or a very weak executive-commission) form of government. In a couple of cases, special state legislation can be sought for individual county changes. See above article for explanations of individual state legislation.

Alabama
Kentucky
New Hampshire
Arkansas
Oklahoma
New Jersey
Delaware
Texas
Idaho
Mississippi
Indiana
Maine
Massachusetts
Iowa
Nebraska
Kansas
West Virginia

B. In these 16 states, any alternative plan must be put to a voter referendum, either through adoption of a charter, or a special question on the proposed change in form. See above article for explanations of individual state legislation.

Colorado
New Jersey
Pennsylvania
Alaska
New York
South Dakota
Arizona
North Dakota
Tennessee
California
Ohio
Utah
Illinois
Oregon
Washington

C. In these 15 states, the county governing board may adopt some alternative to the commission plan of government simply by resolution. In a couple of cases, the board may put the question to the voters if it so resolves. In one case (S.C.), voter approval is required for two of the five optional forms; in a couple of cases, no optional forms are specifically prescribed, but administrators have been hired on the basis of constitutional authority to hire whatever officers are deemed necessary to carry out the duties of the governing board. See above article for explanations of individual state legislation.
IPA Grants strengthen management capabilities

by Thomas P. Bruderle
Research Associate

Counties are benefiting directly or indirectly from the $6 million awarded under the 73 fiscal year Intergovernmental Personnel Act, according to recent U.S. Civil Service Commission statistics.

Counties benefited in four ways. First, 21 counties were directly awarded nearly $239,000 to support fellowships, intergovernmental cooperation, manpower, and personnel support, along with supervisory, data processing, technical, zoning and code enforcement training. With local support, the cost of these programs totaled almost $650,000. The 21 counties awarded include more than 13 percent of the total American population governed by counties. Cook County, Illinois received approximately $45,000 through two grants while New Castle County, Delaware had the largest single grant, $39,500.

A second benefit, in four other cases, cities and counties have served as joint grantee for IPA funds to develop common personnel management and support systems. IPA supplies nearly one-third of the cost (total costs $335,000 with IPA paying $112,000).

The third, and by far the largest potential source of assistance to counties was the $5.5 million awarded to states. During the 1972-73 fiscal year, 31 states received IPA funds for personnel administration improvement and training programs for all local governments. The funds for the programs either directly or indirectly were a benefit to all counties in that state or to a specific county.

In two instances regional units were given training funds for counties and other local entities. In addition, two colleges in New York received IPA funds for educational programs sponsored for all local officials.

A fourth source of assistance came through grants to public interest groups i.e., NACo, the National League of Cities, the Council of State Governments, National Training and Development Service for Local Governments, and the Labor-Management Relations Service, among others. These funds, totaling nearly $650,000, provided for training and technical assistance to local units, including counties, and states.

Joseph M. Robertson, director of the Bureau of Intergovernmental Personnel Programs, which administers IPA funds, said in the report that "IPA authorizes the U.S. Civil Service Commission to make grants to help state and local governments strengthen their management capabilities through improved personnel systems and training programs for professional, administrative, and technical employees."

"The great variety of programs being undertaken indicates that the chief executive of state and local governments are showing initiative and interest in identifying their highest priority personnel management and training needs to receive IPA assistance," he continued.

Write New County, U.S.A. Center for more information in IPA programs.

It’s ‘Salt Lake City and County’

"Salt Lake City and County" is the official name selected for a new form of government that would merge Utah’s largest city with the county’s vast unincorporated area.

Besides the merger, approval by Salt Lake County voters next November would create a series of community councils, each with representation on an areawide or county council.

The name was recently chosen by the county’s local government modernization study group, which, among other things, still must split the county into communities for purposes of local representation.

County Planners Want Say of Growth

Baltimore County’s (Md.) planning staff is drafting a new law that it hopes will make unplanned growth— with its familiar pattern of overcrowded schools, overused roads and overflowing sewage pipes—a thing of the past.

The bill would give the county planning board the right to turn down proposals for new development if public facilities are “not adequate to support and service the area of the proposed subdivision.”

Using specific standards adopted in conjunction with the new law, the planning board would decide whether the proposed development would overload roads, schools and sewer service, and police and fire service for the area.

Since last June, when a county moratorium on new development in the area went into effect, a task force of area residents, homebuilders and county officials has been meeting to come up with solutions to the problem of overdevelopment.

The proposed legislation grew out of those meetings.

Closer Link Between Counties, State Sought

Washington State’s county governments will be the “basic building blocks” in the new long-range planning relationship between the state and local government, King County’s Council was recently told.

Richard W. Hemstad, director of the state’s new Office of Community Development, told the council that a primary goal of his department will be to give local governments a stronger voice in statewide planning.

“Local government will be able to plug into the state budget process at a much earlier stage,” Hemstad said.

He said the next legislature will be asked to appropriate a “quite significant” amount of money to enlarge the planning capacities of local governments so that they may communicate their priorities to the state.

Possible Study Commission

The Northampton County (Pa.) Commissioners plan to take action in “several weeks” to initiate a study which may lead to a new form of county government.

The action should be taken before February 19, they agreed, to that candidates for a charter study commission can circulate nominating petitions. Circulation of such petitions starts on that date and continues through March 12.

The charter study question would be on the May 21 primary election ballots.

Employees Waive Union Affiliation

Warren County (Ohio) Commissioners were informed recently that water department employees had decided not to join the Association of Federal, State, County, and Municipal Employees of the AFL-CIO. County engineer Stan Markey attributed the employees’ decision to a good working relationship between the employees and department head Craig Jarvis.

Drugs Center Site Approved

The Montgomery County (Md.) Council has approved an 11-acre site in Rockville for construction of a 50-bed, $800,000 drug treatment and rehabilitation center for young adults, the first of its kind in the county.

Florida Charters

The Broward County (Fla.) Board of Commissioners has established a charter commission by resolution. The commission now has 18 months to develop a charter and submit it to the board and the voters.

The Martin County Charter Commission has completed its work and will present its charter to the voters in April of 1974.

Economic Growth District for Kansas Counties

A 14-county area of Kansas recently became eligible for federal financial assistance for planning and carrying out programs for economic growth.

The counties became eligible upon designation as an economic development district by the Economic Development Administration, a U.S. Department of Commerce agency working to help stimulate orderly growth in areas with high unemployment or underemployment.

The 14-county area is officially known as the South Central Kansas Economic Development District. It consists of Butler, Chautauqua, Cowley, Ell, Greenwood, Harper, Harvey, Kingman, Marion, McPherson, Reno, Rice, Sedgwick and Sumner counties.

The aim of the EDA district program is to encourage adjacent counties to work together to solve regional problems blocking growth and to help create jobs in economically lagging areas.

Governor Reagan Signs AB 1315

AB 1315 has been signed by California Governor Reagan, permitting county consolidation studies to continue. A constitutional amendment to the bill will allow Folsom, Galt, and Isleton to retain separate status if the voters so desire. The amendment will be voted on statewide in June, even though it is applicable only to Sacramento County. A Sacramento countywide charter election will be held in November.
Ronald Bladen (left), who has been commissioned to prepare models for a sculpture for the Hennepin County, Minn. Government Center, toured the Center with County board chairman Tom Olson. The sculpture, to be located on the south plaza of the Government Center, will be financed by a grant of up to $45,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts and a matching amount from the county. The grant is the first of its kind awarded to a county.

Q: What are counties doing to meet the shortage of heating fuels?
A: A majority of the 67 Boards of County Commissioners in Florida have adopted a model county ordinance proposed by the Florida State Association of County Commissioners. The emergency ordinance impowers the county to allocate heating fuel to those persons the county deems to have an emergency need for home heating fuels. The ordinance designates a County Fuel Allocation Official and prescribes his duties with respect to household consumers and wholesale dealers. It requires wholesale dealers to make deliveries and requires that accurate records are to be maintained. Among other duties, the Fuel Allocation officer will provide assistance to households, identify all wholesale dealers in the county who supply or sell household consumers middle distillate fuels used for household heating, and identify any reserves of such fuels in the county that may be available in an emergency; and, require wholesale dealers in the county on an equitable rotation basis (or within designated service areas of the county) to allocate and deliver the necessary fuels to designated household consumers as determined by the county Fuel Allocation Official. See Things to Write For.

Q: I know there are quite a few (21) city/county consolidations in the United States, such as Metropolitan Nashville/Davidson County, Tenn. and Columbus/Muscogee County, Ga., but are there any examples of county-county consolidation?
A: The last case of County/county consolidation known to the New County, U.S.A. Center was in Georgia in the 1930’s, when three counties merged to form Fulton County (county seat, Atlanta). Interestingly, Fulton county has over recent years seriously considered city/county consolidation. See Things to Write For.

Things to Write for

Continued from Page One

Optional forms eyed in ACIR study

1. Florida Energy Ordinance
   $ .35
   (CMS counties only) $7.00
3. Guidelines and entry form for 1974 New County, U.S.A. Achievement Award program. (Deadline 3/31/74)
   No charge
4. "National Survey of the Appointed Administrator in County Government"
   $5.00
   (CMS counties only) $3.00

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National Association of Counties
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Art and Design by Robert D. Wiegand

January 28, 1974
ATTENDING: North Carolina's Joint Regional Forum were, among others, (l to r) Rob Spivey, Bertie County; Mayor Charles Campbell, Brevard; Eugene McCombs, Rowan County; and C. Ronald Aycock, Counsel for Intergovernmental Affairs of the N.C. Association of County Commissioners.

North Carolina Associations Establish Joint Forum

The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and the North Carolina League of Municipalities have established a Joint Regional Forum to assure that the association, the league and the state's 23 regional councils work together in providing services to their member counties and cities.

The forum's goal is to represent all local governments in North Carolina before the state legislature and state agencies.

The Joint Forum is a nine-member committee of locally elected officials: four county commissioners, four municipal officials and a president appointed jointly by the association and the league. Donald C. Lambeth, Mayor pro tem of Morganton; chairs the group and Vice Chairman Eugene McCombs, Chairman of the Rowan County Board of Commissioners.

At its first meeting, the forum asserted the importance of regional councils in the governmental structure of North Carolina. The Forum recommended that legislative proposals affecting regional councils or having regional impact be channeled through it for solicitation of comments from all the state's regional councils. The forum would then review proposals and make recommendations to the Association and League boards for direction.

Another recommendation was that a regional newsletter be included in the existing monthly publications of the league and the association to present. The forum also voted to invite the North Carolina Association of Regional Councils Directors to join as an affiliate, and it has voted to do so.

According to the National Association of Regional Councils this joint effort is a first among regional cooperation endeavors. Additional information about the forum can be gotten from Ron Aycock, Counsel for Intergovernmental Affairs, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, P.O. Box 1488, Raleigh, North Carolina 27602.

Many Free Copies
We have an abundant supply of "Suggestions for Conserving Energy," the special report in the January 21, 1974 issue of County News anyone needing free copies may write for them. We urge you to send us ideas for saving energy. They will be used to augment the special report when we prepare a forthcoming NACE manual on environmental and conservation measures. Send both ideas and requests for "Suggestions for Conserving Energy" to Marlene Glassman at NACo.

Iowa County Engineer of the Year

NACE Member John F. Artburs, Jr., Marshall County (Iowa) Engineer, has been selected as County Engineer of the Year by the Iowa County Engineer's Association (ICEA).

Artburs has been Marshall County Engineer for 35 years. Previously, he was assistant county engineer in Cerro Gordo and Winneshiek Counties.

To be selected for the award, an engineer must first be recommended by the other county engineers in his district. (Iowa's 99 counties are divided into six districts.) The ICEA executive board then determines the award recipient based on at least a 75 percent favorable vote.

NACE congratulates him as Iowa "County Engineer of the Year."

FHWA reports that main rural roads (primarily arterials or major collectors) served 25.4 percent of the travel, with 16 percent of the nation's total of 3.8 million miles of roads and streets. Local rural roads (mainly local access roads) accounted for 11.1 percent of the travel on approximately 68 percent of the mileage. Urban streets accounted for 53.5 percent of the total travel, representing only 16 percent of the total mileage. All federal-aid systems combined, which include 24 percent of the total U.S. road mileage, carried 70 percent of the travel.

"Engineering...Our Greatest Energy Resource"
February 17-23 is National Engineers Week and the 1974 theme is "Engineering...Our Greatest Energy Resource." The National Society of Professional Engineers sponsors the annual observance. Activities during the week include introducing students to the engineering profession, awarding scholarships; conferences, exhibits, media coverage.

David F. Hanley of Waukesha, Wisconsin is national chairman for the 1974 week.

For information on National Engineers Week or to order promotional aids, contact Cynthia Kean, National Society of Professional Engineers, 2029 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

How Times Have Changed

Editor's Note: The following set of office rules in effect in the year 1872 in the M. Cory Carriage and Wagon Works were reprinted from the Bell and Howell Finder and the Southernier, a regional bulletin of the Postal Service.

1. Office employees will daily sweep the floor, dust the furniture, shelves, and show cases.
2. Each day fill lamps, clean chimneys, and trim wicks. Wash the windoones a week.
3. Each clerk will bring in a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's business.
4. Keep your pens carefully. You may write in the books to your own desire and taste.
5. This office will open at 7:00 A.M. and close at 8 P.M. daily, except on the Sabbath, on which day it will remain closed. Each employee is expected to spend the Sabbath by attending Church and contributing liberally to the cause of the Lord.
6. Men employees will be given an evening off each week for. eating purposes, or two evenings a week if they go regularly to Church.
7. After an employee has spent 13 hours of labor in the office, he should spend the time reading the Bible and other good books while contemplating the Glories and building up of the Kingdom.
8. Every employee should lay aside from his pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his home in his declining years, so that he will not become a burden upon the charity of his betters.
9. Any employee who smokes Spanish cigarettes, uses liquor in any form, gets shaved at a barber shop, or frequents pool and public halls, will give me good reason to suspect his worth, intentions, integrity, and honesty.
Labor Publishes Rules On Prime Sponsorship

The Department of Labor has published a "Request for Notice of Intent to Apply for Prime Sponsorship" in the Federal Register of January 23, 1974, pp. 2744-47.

Counties of 100,000 population or more should consult the Federal Register for specific details as to what they must include in their notice of intent. The notice must be submitted to the appropriate Assistant Regional Director for Manpower. A list of these counties was published in County News January 14.

The notice adds: Any jurisdictions not included on the list which have a population of at least 100,000, as determined by the Bureau of Census, Department of Commerce, should notify it immediately, but no later than March 1, 1974, the appropriate Assistant Regional Director for Manpower, U.S. Department of Labor. A copy of this notification must be sent to the appropriate governor.

Consortia

Combinations of units of general local government may unit to form a multinational area to plan and operate a comprehensive manpower program. Such arrangements are encouraged, particularly in instances where the labor market area is broader than a single jurisdiction.

For the purpose of this program, a labor market area "consists of a central city or cities and the surrounding territory within commuting distance." It is an economically integrated geographical unit within which workers may readily change jobs without changing their place of residence. Labor areas usually include one or more entire counties, except in New England where towns are considered the major geographical unit, as defined in the current issue of "Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment," published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Manpower Administration.

The principal combinations possible are as follows:

- A statewide or balance of state program where independently eligible jurisdictions are included.
- Two or more independently eligible units of government combined.
  One or more independently eligible jurisdictions plus additional units of government not independently eligible, such as a county in the balance of the state or a city in a county.
- A combination of units of government not independently eligible, in exceptional circumstances outlined in section 102(a)(4), as determined by the secretary.

Multijurisdictional programs involving contiguous and intertate areas will be permitted under the provisions of sec. 609 of the act.

Approval will be accorded in individual cases based on reasonable proximity of the areas to one another and the economic efficiency of the arrangement for planning and delivering manpower services.

Labor market areas represent an appropriate basis for effective manpower planning and programming.

Additional Funds

Section 101 of the act provides that up to five percent of Title I funds shall be available to the secretary to encourage voluntary combination agreements among units of general local government as authorized by section 102(a)(3) after consultation with the governor of each state receiving recommendations from the governor of the appropriate state.

It is anticipated that consortia formed under this provision may receive increases of approximately 10 percent of their formula allocation of funds. It is anticipated that multijurisdictional programs include units of general local government in reasonable proximity to one another and include a unit of general local government with a population of 100,000 and which include a substantial portion of the labor market area in which they are located will be eligible for the increase in their formula allocation of funds.

Optional Prime Sponsorship

Any unit of general local government which does not have a population of 100,000 and wishes to be named a prime sponsor because of exceptional circumstances under the provisions of section 102(a)(4) should notify the appropriate Assistant Regional Director for Manpower of its intent to apply for prime sponsorship immediately, but no later than March 1, 1974.

A copy of this notification must be sent to the appropriate governor who will have the opportunity to comment. This notification should include information relative to:

- The labor market area in which the unit of general local government is located.

(Continued on following page)
An Analysis Of The Allied Services Act
by Mary Bruger
Research Associate
Services Program Projects
The purpose of the Allied Services Act is to encourage and assist states and localities to develop, demonstrate, and evaluate methods of providing services through integrated planning, management, and delivery of those services. The ultimate goal is to assist individuals and families in achieving the objectives of personal independence and economic self-sufficiency.

Integrated delivery of human services means the provision of service programs to make them more accessible, to improve their effectiveness, and to make the most efficient use of resources. Methods include consolidating planning, budgeting, and administrative support services.

The act requires that participating states and localities prepare plans integrating the assistance titles of the Social Security Act. These plans must be reviewed and approved by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, federal funds will be made available only to states that meet certain criteria.

State Associations

Casey Heads Arizona Unit

The following final regulations have been issued by the Department of Treasury: "Withdrawal of Cash from the Treasury for Advances Under Federal Grant and Other Programs" ACIR Ref. No. 73-1; "Subparts A, D and E of the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-512)" ACIR Ref. No. 73-11; "Four Draft Reports: State Planning Use Report, Units of Local Government Financed Use Report, State Status of Trust Fund Report, Units of Local Government Status of Grant Fund Report." ACIR Ref. No. 73-11a. Copies of these regulations may be received from Donald L. E. Riter, Acting Deputy General Counsel, Department of Treasury, 3306 Washington, D.C. 20220.

The County Welfare Directors' Association has issued final guidelines on "Preparation of Environmental Impact Statements in Programs Affecting the Environment." ACIR Ref. No. 73-44. The final regulations appeared in the Federal Register, No. 38, Number 147, August 1, 1973.

Final Federal Regulations Issued

The Civil Service Commission has issued final "Regulations Establishing Grant Termination Procedures" ACIR Ref. No. 73-19. These regulations can be received by writing to Richard Leverone, Civil Service Commission, 1900 F Street, N.W., Bureau of Intergovernmental Personnel Programs, Rm. 2526, Washington, D.C. 20415.

Implementation Grants

The implementation grant, the second of the three, is to be awarded when there is a reasonable assurance that all necessary planning in carrying out the plan can be made within the time limit of the legislation.

Implementation

There are three methods of shifting funds to support the local services integration plan. The first is the possibility of transferring up to 30 percent of the assistance for current HEW programs to other HEW programs in the plan. The second is a consolidated planning grant for the planning of all HEW programs. The third is the process of applying the planning funds of one HEW categorical program to another in the plan.

Grants for the transfer of funds, the non-federal share requirements will continue to be based on funds as they originate, not as they stand after transfer. Funds under the assistance titles of the Social Security Act are Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act may not be transferred.

Local plans may include requests for waivers of state-wide eligibility, local agency administration, and other technical requirements.

The local program is funded by more than one federal agency, a single federal agency may act administratively for all federal agencies involved.

The secretary has the authority to conduct evaluations of the projects as they progress and to disseminate the results of the evaluation. HEW may provide technical assistance, as necessary.

Prime Sponsorship Rules Published

(Copied from preceding page)
organizations and programs; administrative efficiency in terms of cost, program existence and effectiveness; and the operation of a Cooperative Area Manpower Planning System, an Operation Planning Grant, a Public Employment Program or other manpower delivery services.

Any Concentrated Employment Program grantee serving a rural area having a high level of unemployment and desiring to serve as a prime sponsor, may be considered for diffusion to the appropriate Assistant Regional Director for Manpower.

Assistant Regional Directors for Manpower

Region I, Lawrence R. Rogan, Assistant Regional Director for Manpower, U.S. Department of Labor, 400 Golden Gate Ave., Box 3084, San Francisco, Calif. 94102.


Region III, J. Terrel Whistler, Assistant Regional Director for Manpower, U.S. Department of Labor, 330 South Wacker Dr., Chicago, Ill. 60606.

Region VI, Richard L. Coffman, Assistant Regional Director for Manpower, U.S. Department of Labor, Federal Building, Rm. 3000, 111 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106.

Region VII, Neal B. Hadfield, Assistant Regional Director for Manpower, U.S. Department of Labor, Federal Building, Rm. 3000, 911 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106.

Region VIII, Frank A. Potter, Assistant Regional Director for Manpower, U.S. Department of Labor, 16015 Federal Office Bldg., 16015 Stout St., Denver, Colo. 80202.

Region IX, William E. Edwards, Assistant Regional Director for Manpower, U.S. Department of Labor, 400 Golden Gate Ave., Box 3084, San Francisco, Calif. 94102.

Region X, Jess C. Ramaker, Assistant Regional Director for Manpower, U.S. Department of Labor, 1321 Second Ave., Seattle, Wash. 98101.


Summer in Washington

Offered Students

High School students can learn about government first hand this summer at The American University in Washington, D.C. The Washington Summer Seminar for high school students will provide an understanding of government, lements, politicians, bureaucrats, lobbyists and newsmen during two sessions June 16-28 and July 7-19.

For 25 years the Washington Semester Program of The American University has been offering college students from across the country the opportunity to learn about and experience the political face meeting. Now, through the Washington Summer Seminar, The American University is providing the same opportunity to college-bound high school students and to those considering whether or not they wish to go to college. It will provide them with an up-close experience of college-level study for college credit and will give them a realistic picture of the way their government works.

A sound film strip on the program is available for groups. Application and additional information may be obtained by writing or calling: Dr. David C. Brown, Director, Washington Summer Seminar, School of Government and Public Administration, The American University, Washington, D.C. 20016. Tel. 202/336-2376.
Dear County Official:

Congress got right down to business last week. Usually not much happens during the first couple of weeks of a new session because of waiting for the President’s State of the Union Message and his budget proposals. Not this year.

A debate started in the Senate on the comprehensive energy bill, but there was little progress because of the unresolved question on an excess profits tax for oil companies. The Senate Finance Committee heard hearings on the profits issue. The press had daily coverage on the oil companies’ profits because of Senator Henry Jackson’s hearings. Meanwhile, President Nixon submitted his package of new energy bills and reemphasized the need for an excess profits tax. It is doubtful if the comprehensive energy bill will be enacted before the end of February.

Land Use

In other action, the House Interior Committee cleared the land use policy bill (H.R. 10294). House floor debate could take place in February. The final committee bill contains 10 of the 12 amendments urged by NACo. County News will carry a companion with the Senate-passed bill next week.

FY 1975 Budget

President Nixon’s budget will be sent to Congress Monday, Feb. 4. NACo will receive briefings and we plan to do a comprehensive analysis of the budget. It will be in the issue of County News dated Feb. 11.

Suburban Cooperation

Nassau County (N.Y.) County Executive Ralph Caso issued a 60-page survey of national city and suburban demographic social and economic developments at a meeting of suburban municipalities in Milwaukee, Wis. The report is an outgrowth of a paper presented at NACo’s annual meeting three years ago, and it documents the dramatic shifts in politics during the last decade. He used the report to illustrate that the suburbs and cities have to work together and avoid conflicts. Copies can be obtained from County Executive’s office, 1 West Street, Mineola, N.Y. 11501.

Crime Shift

Donald E. Santarelli, Chief of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA), has announced that his agency will shift its emphasis from jails and police to prevention of witnesses. He notes that half of the trial dismissals in the United States are laid to fear on the part of the witnesses of reprisals from the criminal. He is advocating the creation of “witness protection units” in police departments across the country and is also urging that county and city officials carefully study their handling of witnesses. During the past five and one half years, LEAA has distributed nearly $3 billion to states, cities and counties to fight crime.

Hotline

Our new NACo “hotline” has become so popular during the last two months that we have added another telephone line. We started it, officially entitled “Hillenbrand’s Washington Report” last November, so county officials could call at any time for a three-minute report on the latest national news of interest to counties.

Many callers reported that they often got a busy signal. We installed a new line last week, so that if the first line is busy, your phone call will automatically be switched to a second line with the same recording. The number to call is 202/785-5951.

We urge officials who haven’t called the hotline yet to give it a try. We’ll welcome your comments and suggestions.

“Is No Secret Any More”

“When We’re In, It’s Our Government.”

The following letter was sent in by NACo Director Arch Lamb of Lubbock, Texas.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your request to send a check, I want to inform you that the present condition of my bank account makes it impossible. My shoddy financial condition is due to federal laws, city laws, county laws, mothers-in-law, brothers-in-law and our President.

Through these laws I am compelled to pay a business tax, amusement tax, school tax, gas tax, sales tax, liquor tax, tobacco tax, income tax, poll tax, excise tax and tobacco tax; even my brains are taxed.

I am over taxed and am required to get a business license, car license, hunting license, fishing license, truck license, marriage license, and dog license.

My business is so governed that it is not easy for me to find out who owns it. I am impelled, disreased, rejected, examined, re-examined, informed, misinformed, required, summoned, commanded, demanded and compelled until I provide an inexhaustible supply of money for every known need of the human race.

Simply because I refuse to donate to something or other, I am a miser but if I give liberally, I’m doing it for show. If I die young the world has lost a good trading man, but if I survive to be a ripe old age, I’m robbing the grave.

I can tell you honestly that except for a miracle I could not enclose this check. The wolf at my door just takes food. I sold them and here is the money.

Revenue Sharing Data

States and local governments will receive earlier and more accurate estimates of general revenue sharing annual allocations, according to Graham W. Watt, Director of the U.S. Treasury Department’s Office of Revenue Sharing.

Working with the U.S. Bureau of the Census, the Office of Revenue Sharing has developed a system whereby data will be reviewed by the recipient governments themselves in March 1974, before the fiscal year 1975 allocations are calculated for each government. Since the data will have been verified in advance, fewer and smaller adjustments are expected to be made subsequently in allocations of shared revenues.

Sincerely yours,

Bernard F. Hillenbrand
Executive Director

Coming Events

**FEBRUARY**

4-6 Michigan Association of Counties Legislative
& Taxation Conference Lansing, Michigan
Old Plaza Hotel

5-7 County Judges 
& Commissioners Association of Texas College Station, Texas

17-19 Police Jury 
Association of Louisiana Lake Charles, Louisiana

20-22 National Association 
of County Engineers 14th Annual Management 
& Research Conference Disney World, Florida

25-26 National Association 
of County Civil Attorneys Mid-Winter Meeting Washington, D.C.

26-28 NACo National 
Legislative Convention Washington, D.C.

28, Mar. 2 “Revolutions in Campaign and Election Law” Shoreham Hotel Florence Zeiter Washington, D.C.

**MARCH**

1-1 NACo’s “Bridging the Creditors Gap” Meeting Washington, D.C.

3-5 State Association of 
County Commissions of Florida Convention Panama City Beach, Florida

9-13 National Association 
of Regional Councils Annual Convention Los Angeles, California

31-Apr. 3 County Officer 
Association of State 
New York Annual Meeting Grassing, New York

**APRIL**

28-30 NACo Western Region 
District Convention Seattle

**MAY**

1-3 Utah Association of 
County Annual 
Convention Salt Lake City, Utah

5-8 American Society for 
Public Administration Annual 
Convention Syracuse, New York

15-16 Region III Federal 
Aid Conference Baltimore, Maryland

14-17 NACo National 
Convention Miami Beach, Florida

Change of Address

If the County News is incorrectly addressed, please give the correct address below and return to NACo.

Name:

Address:

Attach old label here

Bernard F. Hillenbrand
Executive Director

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