Welcome Delegates !

County News

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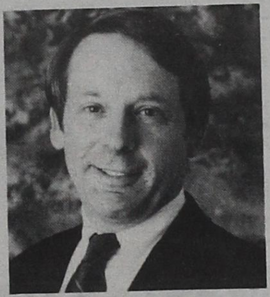
INSIDE

Local gov't will shoulder more load under new nat'l transportation policy

By Susan D. Grubb
staff writer



Secretary of Transportation Samuel Skinner

Calling for more financial and hands-on involvement by state and local government, and the private sector, the Bush administration released its national transportation policy March 8, the first transportation statement issued by the federal government in more than 10 years.

Secretary of Transportation Samuel Skinner characterized the policy as a "good, solid framework." Under the plan, transportation decisions will be addressed by a partnership of federal, state and local governments, and the private sector. All will participate in financing, maintaining and operating the transportation system.

Much of the financial participation, however, will fall into the laps of state and local governments. The plan calls for increased state and local user fees, reduced spending by the federal government from the General Fund and the use of transportation trust funds "in a fiscally responsible manner." To help foster state and local financing, it encourages greater use of toll roads and passenger facility charges at airports. It also promotes greater private sector investment by removing legal regulatory barriers.

According to a recent *Washington Post* article, the plan as originally drafted called for the "spending down" of both the highway and aviation trust funds which total approximately $26 billion.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB), however, deleted that language and, instead, emphasized the reduction of general federal spending.

"We feel that state and local governments haven't provided a sufficient amount of infrastructure funding," Skinner told reporters after the plan's release at a White House ceremony. However, states appear to be willing to raise taxes, Skinner pointed out, since last year 33 raised gas taxes and some also raised user fees.

See STRATEGY, page 4

'90 Leg.Conference, among largest ever

More than 2,000 delegates began arriving in Washington over the weekend, as *County News* went to press, to attend the 1990 Legislative Conference, making it one of the largest legislative conferences in recent NACo history. With 120 meetings, four caucuses and fifty workshops on topics ranging from child care to jail industries, the conference also figures to be one of the busiest.

"I'm extremely excited about this conference because I think it will be an interesting and productive one, " NACo President Ann Klinger said in her welcoming letter to conference delegates.

In between meetings and workshops, delegates will hear from top Washington officials.

Francis Francois, executive director of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, will tackle one of the hottest topics in Washington these weeks, the nation's transportation systems. Francois, a former councilmember from Prince George's County, Md., was NACo president in 1979.

Three cabinet secretaries — Elizabeth Dole, Labor; Manuel Lujan, Interior; and Jack Kemp, Housing and Urban Development — will present the administration's position on critical county issues, such as job training, public lands use and housing development.

Congressional leaders will also take the floor. Senator Daniel P. Moynihan (D-N.Y.), chief architect of the welfare-reforming

See CONFERENCE, page 2

Pepper panel puts $86 billion price on health package

By Thomas L. Joseph, III
associate legislative director

On March 2, a divided Pepper Commission presented its proposals on universal health care access and a long-term care package. Because of their $86 billion price tag, the commission was unable to reach any agreement on a method of financing.

In its 21-page outline of recommendations, the panel voted 8-7 on a $43.4 billion program of universal health care coverage through a jobs based/public system. All businesseswith more than 100 employees would be required to offer health insurance containing a benefit package of hospital surgery, physician services, mental health and preventive services. Employers would pay at least 80 percent of the premium. If they chose not to provide private insurance, they would pay into a public system through a payroll tax.

According to the panel, businesses with fewer than 100 employees would benefit from proposed insurance market reforms, including no pre-existing conditions exclusions, similar rates and same terms to all groups in specified areas and standardized benefits. Businesses with fewer than 25 employees and an average payroll below $18,000 will be eligible for tax credits for 40 percent of the health insurance cost. Of the $43.4 billion, businesses are expected to pay $20 billion.

For long-term care, the Pepper Commission approved, by a vote of 11-4, a $42.8 billion package of benefits including: home health, adult day health, personal care, skilled nursing and custodial care. All nursing home users are covered by the federal government for the

See PEPPER, page 3

National service bill passes Senate

By Michael L. Benjamin
associate legislative director

After four days of debate on the Senate floor, the U.S. Senate, under the leadership of Senator Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and with strong bipartisan support, passed the National and Community Service Act (S. 1430)with a 78-19 vote.. The bill would establish a $125 million fund in FY90-91 to begin a comprehensive voluntary national service program.

The bill sets up a continuum of volunteer opportunities by:

- encouraging elementary and secondary school students and other members of the community to volunteer in schools;
- creating a full-time conservation/youth corps; and
- establishing a national service demonstration program for full and part-time service, in return for vouchers that can be used to purchase a first home, attend school or to buy a small business.

Full-time volunteers will re-

See SERVICE, page 3

America's counties

Spotlighting counties on the Hill

By Ann Klinger
NACo president

Ann Klinger
NACo president

"County Government Works" will be the message delivered by 2,000 county officials during the March Legislative Conference in Washington this year. The conference presents a major opportunity to increase visibility and credibility for counties, and to carry our message to congress and the administration.

NACo is preparing packets for those attending the conference that will include fact sheets on each of the major legislative issues as well as platform priorities. An excellent Issues Update is in this edition of ***County News*** as well. Your NACo officers team has a full schedule of meetings with national leaders adding to the list of 27 whom we met with in September and January.

Why are so many county officials making the extra time and effort to discuss issues and share information with colleagues from around the country — and to meet with national legislators and the Bush Administration on Capitol Hill?

Together, we find solutions to problems, and with unity, we can make a difference in national legislation and regulations that affect counties.

For anyone who may think it is enough to stay within county boundaries and tend to issues, let me tell you a true story. Many years ago when I was new to county politics, I sincerely believed that state representatives should handle the issues under state jurisdiction and had the same view of the federal process. My wise state senator, however corrected my view with a very few words.

I was concerned that a bill, which in my view was poor public policy, was about to be approved. I asked my senator to see that it was defeated. He was pleased and immediately said he would put me on the committee's agenda to testify the following week in the state capitol.

My response, in essence, was "that's a five-hour trip for me for fewer than ten minutes of testimony – that's what we elect you to do – getting it defeated is your job as state senator."

He paused for about three seconds – stunned no doubt – then said, "let me put it this way; you may not be here to oppose the bill, but the other side will."

I went to the state capitol, testified, and "our side" won. I realized that the outcome would have been very different if our side had not been presented at the hearing. It made a believer out of me. From then on, I was a "convert" with a very different attitude and with the patience to sit even the third day in a hearing room to testify if needed — sometimes to speak less than a couple of minutes.

Is it important to be in your state capital and on Capitol Hill in Washington? You bet it is!

Remember, you may not be there, but lobbyists on the other side will. As more mandates are imposed on counties, it becomes even more crucial to invest that extra time and effort.

This is NACo's largest legislative conference in history. It will be followed in May by an outstanding Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference in Alaska and our annual meeting in July in Dade County, Fla.

All attendees at the Legislative Conference will receive a calendar with these dates and an up-to-date list of NACo staffers on the reverse. If you couldn't attend and would like one, drop me a post card at Post Office Box 3348, Merced, CA 94344.

AIDS bill assists counties

By Thomas L. Joseph, III
associate legislative director

A bill providing direct funding to urban counties and cities with high numbers of AIDS cases was introduced on March 6, by Senators Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), chair and ranking minority member, respectively, of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee. The bipartisan bill has 24 additional original co-sponsors and intends to provide direct relief to the 13 urban counties and cities with 2,000 or more AIDS cases.

A second section of the bill will provide funds to all 50 states to fund local AIDS/HIV care consortia (see Issues Update for a description of the provisions).

At a press conference attended by NACo Executive Director John Thomas, Sen. Kennedy acknowledged the assistance of NACo in drafting sections of the bill on the funding mechanism for impact aid. Under the legislation, the funding will be directed to the chief elected official of the city or urban county which administers the public health agency serving the greatest proportion of persons with AIDS in the eligible area. The chief elected official will also appoint and serve on a local council to determine funding priorities.

One-half of the $300 million authorized under the direct assistance section would be allocated within 60 days. The remaining funds under Title I would be given to the 13 areas on a competitive basis. Funding would be available to hospitals, outpatient s clinics, nursing homes ar acute care facilities servin proportionate share of ser low-income persons with A

Title II authorizes state programs to establish AI consortia; provide home an munity-based care; provide insurance continuity; ther treatments; and early interv

The cities and urban c eligible for the Title I imp are: Atlanta, Ga.; Boston, Chicago, Ill.; Dallas and H Texas; San Francisco and L geles, Calif.

Also, Miami, Fla.; N N.J.; New York, N.Y.; Ph phia, Pa.; San Juan, Puerto and Washington, D.C. Thes represent 55 percent of th AIDS cases.

Mass. sheriff wins jail spac

By Jill Conley
staff writer

Hampden County (Mass.) Sheriff Michael Ashe, who, in a last resort action, commandeered a National Guard Armory to alleviate overcrowding in his jail, got what he wanted — a place to house his excess prisoners.

Ashe's standoff at the armory has put the issue of jail overcrowding at the top of the national media agenda directing the public eye to the space between a rock and a hard place where many corrections officials are finding themselves.

Richard McCarthy, a spokesperson for the Hampden County jail, offered a five-point list of reasons for jail overcrowding in the '80s: a swing toward tougher sentencing; an increase in crime overall; an increase in drug-specific crimes; better law enforcement; and "a not in my backyard and not on my tax dollar attitude toward building new correctional facilities."

McCarthy pointed out, however, that while jail conditions in his county have been similar to those in jails across the country, the situation leading up to the army takeover had taken on a unique life of its own. The takeover, he said, "was strictly a local solution to a local problem and was in no way meant to be symbolic."

At its peak, the century-old Hampden County jail, which was built to house 312 inmates, held 724. That was in the mid-'80s, before a federal court order limited the jail's population to 450.

Since then, Sheriff Ashe has been keeping the jail population within its cap through a number of ways. "We've been ahead of the times when it comes to alternative sentencing programs," says McCarthy.

In 1986, Hampden County initiated one of the first day reporting programs, which included an electronic monitoring system. That program, says McCarthy, has become a prototype for the National Institute of Justice. The county also operates a 60-bed pre-release center and utilizes a 125-bed, five-county regional alcohol center for repeat DUI offenders.

In addition to alternative sentencing programs, the Hampden County jail has had to rely on early release to keep its population within the cap. McCarthy says most of the inmates who are not drug traffickers, sex offenders or in violation of gun laws serve an average of one-third of their sentences.

Between November, 1988 and February, 1990, Sheriff Ashe early released 1,300 inmates. In February, he ran out of inmates who met the early release criterion.

"We were in a position where we could no longer implement sentences in this county," said McCarthy. Convicts were being sent back to the streets to await vacancies in the jail before they could serve their sentences. Thirty people were backlogged this way, said McCarthy, and a number of them were going back to crime.

Fed up with the positio which the jail had fallen, consulted an attorney who f provision in a 17th centur granting sheriffs broad autho keep the peace. He then notice to the brigadier comm of the armory notifying hi plans for the takeover.

"It appears there is an imm danger of a breach of the pea to insufficient space in county," the notice read. "Re able steps must be taken to pre the peace and quell such dan

On Feb. 16, Ashe rounded armed deputies and move minimum security prisoners Springfield National Guard mory.

Last week, the state pro Ashe the use of a vacant arm Holyoke — 10 miles nor Springfield — until a new c jail can be built. Constructio new jail has already been appr The project, however, will between two and three yea complete.

The state has agreed to let keep his minimum security pr ers in the Springfield armory $77,500 worth of repairs are made to the armory in Holyo

CONFERENCE

from page 1

Family Support Act and current proponent of Social Security payroll tax reductions, along with Representatives Newt Gingrich, (R-Ga.), House minority whip; Henry A. Waxman (D-Calif.), chairman, Health and Environment Subcommittee; and Glenn English (D-Okla.), chairman, Conservation, Credit and Rural Development Subcommittee, will round out the impressive list of Capitol Hill speakers.

Waxman's subcommittee is the critical playing field for any proposed clean air legisla Waxman also plays a prime ro Medicaid legislation. During year's session, he was respon for expanding Medicaid – nation's low-income health gram — extending its covera more pregnant women. He is active in promoting AIDS leg tion.

Chairman of the Conserva Credit and Rural Develop Subcommittee, Rep. Glenn En is managing the rural develop bill now on the House floor.

SERVICE
from page 1

receive vouchers of $5,000 a year for one to two years of service. Full-time volunteers will receive vouchers of $5,000 a year for one to two years of service. Part-time volunteers would receive a $2,000 voucher for each year served.

The part-time volunteer provision, authored by Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.), would permit volunteers to serve three to six years, two weekends a month and two weeks a year in return for their stipends.

The bill has three titles: Title I – National and Community Service State Grant Program includes four national service options, including school and community-based programs for school and out-of-school youth, full-time youth service corps, innovative program options, and national and regional clearinghouses. Title II – Higher Education Provisions – language encouraging grants to create innovative ways of incorporating community service into academic programs. This would include modifications in the work-study program and deferred student loan repayment for Peace Corps or VISTA volunteers, or for those who perform full-time service with community organizations. Title III – This would establish the Points of Light Initiative Foundation which will provide leadership grants for national and community service. Local governments may apply directly to the federal government if a state does not apply for the full-time youth service corps option.

The bill has been referred to the House Education and Labor Committee.

PEPPER
from page 1

first three months of care with full protection of their assets. Individuals would be required to pay up to 20 percent of the national average cost of care. After three months, the federal and state governments will "share" in the costs, but the initial proposal is no more specific than that. The commission also proposes to more strongly regulate and establish minimum standards for private long-term care policies.

The proposal has met mixed reviews. The Health Insurance Association of America called it a "blueprint for economic disaster," the Chamber of Commerce is "disappointed" over the employer mandates, while long-term care advocates generally praised it.

NACo ON THE MOVE

(Ed. Note: "NACo On The Move" provides a quick look at the comings and goings of NACo staff, officers and members as they pursue the county agenda on Capitol Hill and across the country.)

◆ In a meeting with representatives of the Polish government, Feb. 27 in Washington, D.C., Deputy Executive Director **Ed Ferguson** spoke about local government structure in the newly democratic country. The possibility of sending a delegation of county officials to Poland was also discussed.

◆ Legislative staff **Bob Fogel** attended the White House ceremony releasing the Bush administration's national transportation strategy on March 8 ... Late last month, Fogel spoke to the State Department of Transportation Officials in Washington, D.C., Feb. 21, about highway funding ... Funding for the highway system was the topic of further meetings with Representative Bob Wise (D-W.Va.), Representative Richard Gephardt's (D-Mo.) staff and staff from the Senate Budget Committee ... General transportation issues were discussed at a breakfast meeting with Representative Leon Panetta (D- Calif.) ... Status of the highway trust fund was the subject of meetings Legislative Director **Ralph Tabor** held with John Angel, staff director of the House Budget Committee and Staff Director of the Senate Appropriation Committee, Jim English.

◆ NACo President **Ann Klinger** spoke at the Iowa Association of Counties meeting, March 15 ... While in town, she met with the editorial board of the *Des Moines Register* on county issues.

◆ On behalf of NACo and other public interest groups, Virginia Rutledge, chief financial officer for the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company, and president of the Government Finance Officers Association, testified, March 5, before the House Ways and Means Committee about the impact of tax reform on the bond market ... For a related Ways and Means hearing, **Bill Melton**, treasurer, Dallas County, Texas and president of the National Association of County Treasurers and Finance Officers, submitted written testimony to the committee about regulations restricting arbitrage rebate provisions affecting infrastructure financing. The two-day hearing was held on March 6 and 7.

◆ Legislative staff **Tom Joseph** attended the unveiling of Senator Edward Kennedy's (D-Mass.) new AIDS package at a March 6 press conference ... The health issues agenda for the remainder of the congressional session was the focus of a later meeting with Representative Henry Waxman's (D-Calif.) staff.

◆ Appearing before the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) Board, March 14, Deana L. Reed, director of deferred compensation for the state of Tennessee, and president of the National Association of Government Deferred Compensation Association, testified on behalf of NACo and other public interest groups about FDIC regulations.

◆ In further lobbying supporting jail industries programs, legislative staff **Donald Murray**, on Feb. 26, spoke with the Prison and Jail Problems Committee of the American Bar Association's Criminal Justice Section about the issue ... Earlier this month, Murray met with staff from the House Public Works Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight about possible oversight hearings and federal disaster assistance.

◆ Legislative staff **Barbara Paley** met with Rep. Henry Waxman's (D-Calif) staff last week about strategy for House action on the clean air bill.

◆ At their meeting in Washington, D.C., Feb. 26, the National Association of Private Industry Councils heard from **Larry Jones**, legislative staff, about upcoming activities of the Coalition for Job Training — a national public interest group for employment training issues. He also spoke on getting more money to clients in the job training system nationwide, particularly to those with severe barriers to employment.

◆ Legislative staff **Michael Benjamin** attended a meeting with staff from the House Agriculture Committee on food stamp legislation, March 14, to reinforce NACo's position ... NACo, along with several other public interest groups, has signed onto a letter reauthorizing the Food Stamp Act ... Benjamin and Legislative Director **Ralph Tabor** met with Senate Agriculture Committee staff about the Mickey Leland Memorial Hunger Relief Act introduced Feb. 27.

◆ Meeting in Buffalo, March 12, members of the New York State Association of Counties were briefed by legislative staff **Susan White** on the taxation of interstate sales and alternative revenue sources for counties.

◆ **Ellen Rodriguez**, immigration program administrator for Broward County, Fla., testified on immigration issues for NACo, March 13, before the House Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees and International Law, and the House Immigration Task Force.

◆ In a meeting with Don Campbell, staff director, Senate Housing Subcommittee, last week, legislative staff **Haron Battle** and other public interest group lobbyists discussed changes in funding allocations for the Housing Opportunities Partnership (HOP) program. HOP is part of the Senate housing bill which will be marked up in April.

◆ Supervisor **Barbara Shipnuck**, Monterey County, Calif., and chair of NACo's Health Steering Committee, attended the March 12 meeting of the Anthony Commission, of which she is a member, to plan the 1990 agenda. The commission met in Washington, D.C.

◆ Pending farm legislation was the topic of a meeting NACo Fellow **David Zimet** held with Bob Christensen of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges earlier this month.

◆ NACo's latest intern, **Richard Kirk**, is conducting a nine-month study on county revenues. Kirk is currently working on a master's degree in public administration at George Washington University.

(Compiled by Susan D. Grubb, County News staff writer.)

STRATEGY from page 1

Denying that the plan simply "passes the buck" onto state and locals, Skinner explained that over the years the federal government has taken on more and more transportation responsibility. "We're not shirking our responsibility," he said. "We're now trying to strike a balance."

Critics of the plan cite figures from the House Democratic Study Group that claim federal investment in all transportation modes has declined almost 20 percent between FY80 and FY91. Long-term trends also show the federal share in infrastructure spending, dropping from 31 to 23 percent, and the state share from 29 to 24 percent during the period 1960-1987. Local government spending, on the other hand, has risen from 41 percent to 53 percent.

"Once again the federal government is talking a good game, but not putting their money where their mouth is," said NACo President Ann Klinger. "To talk about local and state government increasing user fees in order to build highways while funds are sitting in trust funds in Washington collecting is not keeping faith with the public. OMB appears to be holding the trust funds hostage to mask the federal deficit."

Commissioner Bart Barker, Salt Lake County, Utah, and of NACo Transportation Steering Committee chair, believes that local governments are the most financially committed level of government when it comes to general tax revenues for infrastructure fin...

"The federal governm... almost all of its money in... and holds it [in trust funds... governments get 1/3 or l... user fees and 2/3 or mo... local property and other ta... explained. "Trust fund... words, and one word is 'tr... need to put the trust bac... trust funds."

Rep. Glenn Anders... Calif.), chair, House Publi... and Transportation Co... was also concerned about... of federal funding.

"The administration... 1991 budget cited a $19 bil... committed balance in the H... Trust Fund and $7 billio... Aviation Trust Fund," ... "The National Transporta... icy does not give us any a... that this money, paid by ta... for transportation purpos... be spent."

County governments, ... and townships were res... for 56 percent of the highw... age in the United States ... but received only slightly... percent of the total high... penditures, according to "... America: The County H... System," a report publis... year by NACo. Counties a... and operate 34 percent of... ports in the United States.

NACo's Transportatio... ing Committee plans to dis... national strategy and form... own policy at the Legislati... ference.

County News

"THE WISDOM TO KNOW AND THE COURAGE TO DEFEND THE PUBLIC INTEREST"

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Dade County, Fla. to host Annual Conference

NACo's Annual Conference, to be held in Miami, Fla., July 14-17, offers members the opportunity to visit an area that is emerging as one of the most exciting in the United States.

"If you haven't visited Dade County recently, then you have some very pleasant surprises awaiting you," said County Commissioner Harvey Ruvin, chairman of the Host Committee.

"We've undergone a dramatic metamorphosis," Ruvin said. "From a lazy seasonal beach resort of the '50s, we've become a vibrant, year-round and multi-faceted center for the 1990s."

Metro-Dade County is an ideal destination for those torn between "getting away from it all" and "being part of it all." Some of the most beautiful beaches in the world flank an exciting urban setting giving the area twin distinctions as a vacation mecca and an important, hemisphere-bridging business market.

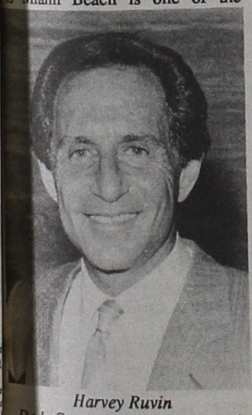
"Whatever your interests, from simple beach-bumming to sophisticated museums, we have it," said Ruvin. "You can battle a sailfish with a rod and reel, attend the opera or symphony, parasail over the ocean, sample cafe cubano and arroz con pollo in Little Havana or savor a pina colada and stone crabs at a beachfront restaurant."

Ruvin promises that the Greater Miami area will exhaust the visitor long before the visitor can exhaust the "must do" list. Here are the top five:

World-famous Miami Beach hotels line the sweeping, 300-foot-wide beach that stretches more than 10 miles along the Atlantic Ocean. Miami Beach's two-mile boardwalks offer sightseers an uninterrupted ocean view. **Photo, Metro-Dade Communications**

The new Miami Beach

The ten-mile stretch of sand that is Miami Beach is one of the loveliest in the world, and completely user-friendly whether you're an avid water sports fan or just want to work on your tan. The sand is white and the beaches incredibly wide thanks to a recent beach renourishment program.



Harvey Ruvin
Dade County commissioner and former NACo president

The reincarnated Art Deco district along Ocean Drive on the southern strip of Miami Beach is the current "in" spot for a whole new generation of Miamians and visitors from around the world is an impressive row of historic hotels reborn in a rainbow of pastel colors. These 1920s Art Deco buildings provide a backdrop for the growing array of restaurants, art galleries and boutiques that dot the palm-shaded streets. Lounging at an alfresco cafe is a favorite activity day or night. After dark, a variety of clubs offer live music from hot rock and Latin Salsa to soulful raggae and jazz.

Downtown Miami

A good place to start a tour of downtown is at Bayside Marketplace, a waterfront speciality center of upscale shops, boutiques and retail booths combined with a vast array of eating spots. Your choice of food includes everything from gourmet restaurants and ethnic speciality shops to dozens of fast-food outlets. Bayside has a festive air with something always happening, be it strolling musicians and sidewalk entertainers or gondola rides and bay cruises.

A breezy bazaar between the Bayside pavillions is lined with booths and carts. Here, vendors display jewelry, leather, hats, T-shirts, artwork and other wares.

Bayside is the focus of a $38 million downtown redevelopment project that also includes 28-acre Bayfront Park, where ongoing renovations have added a waterfront ampitheater and a 100-foot laser light tower that explodes in colors on downtown Miami every night.

Also located downtown is Metro-Dade Center, the home of county government. The complex includes the 29-story government building and adjacent cultural center where a main library, fine arts center and historical museum frame a public plaza where outdoor concerts and other events are staged.

Both museums are worth a visit; the Center of Fine Arts features art exhibitions from museums around the world, while the Historical Museum of Southern Florida focuses on the area's colorful 100-year history.

Also located downtown is the Miami Arena, the home of the "Heat," Miami's new National Basketball Association franchise. The arena is also a frequent showcase for some of the country's top entertainment.

The best way to get around in downtown Miami is to ride MetroMover, the state-of-the-art elevated train that does a 1.9-mile loop around the downtown area linking Bayside and Metro-Dade Center with major attractions, hotels and office buildings. The MetroMover interfaces with a 23-mile MetroRail System, a commuter train that links the south and north outskirts of the city with downtown.

Coconut Grove

Coconut Grove is an offbeat, microcosm of Greater Miami played out in curbside cafes, art galleries, specialty shops and some of the liveliest street life anywhere. On any given day, this can include mimes, one-man bands, dollar-per-minute message therapists and the latest fashions modeled by the never-ending parade of young and old who frequent the Grove to see and be seen. Dinning in the Grove can be very causal at a bayfront pub, or extremely elegant at a five-star hotel.

While in the Grove area, don't miss Villa Vizcaya. Cloistered in a densely wooded area along Biscayne Bay, this Italian Renaissance-style palace with ten acres of formal gardens is known for its superb collection of European furniture and decorative arts. Vizcaya is operated by Metro-Dade Parks, one of the most heralded park and recreation systems in the U.S.

Metrozoo

Rare white bengal tigers, the nation's only koala bears outside of California and 300 exotic birds live comfortably in this 285-acre habitat, the largest cageless zoo in the nation. Located in Southwest Dade, Metrozoo is definitely worth the half-day it requires to visit. A children's petting zoo is a favorite attraction featuring elephant rides, play areas and daily activities. A motorail system offers visitors a bird's eye view of the wildlife attraction.

Key Biscayne

The trip to this tropical island, only minutes from downtown, begins with a drive across a scenic bridge span that offers a dramatic view of the downtown skyline. Enroute, you pass the geodesic golden dome of the Miami Sea aquarium, South Florida's largest marine park and a popular family attraction. A 10,000-pound killer whale and TV's Flipper star along with sealions, sharks, manatees and other creatures of the deep.

While you'll find numerous restaurants and small shops on the island, much of the Key is preserved as state and county parkland.

You'll find towering pines, massive banyans and undisturbed mangroves and long stretches of beach. One of the area's oldest landmarks, the Cape Florida Lighthouse, stands at the southern end of Cape Florida State Park. Dating back to 1825, the 95-foot tower and its former keeper's home have withstood the rages of pirates, Indians and hurricanes.

Key Biscayne is also home of a top-rated professional tennis center and one of the most beautiful public golf courses in the world.

From the tip of the island, you can catch a glimpse of one of the sights that makes Greater Miami unique, that sets it apart as a tropical metropolis: a cluster of homes squatting on wooden supports in the middle of Biscayne Bay, known as Stilsville. There are plenty of picnic facilities, and Key Biscayne is a premier spot for one.

NACo's WIR Conference goes to Alaska

By Rick Keister
associate legislative director

"Public Lands in the '90s: Preparing For A Decade of Change" is the theme of this year's Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference to be held in the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska, May 9-12. Set in the majestic backdrop of Alaska, this year's conference features outstanding speakers and workshops that will focus on the critical changes that are taking place in public lands policy and management.

In addition, the WIR Conference will be preceded by one sponsored by the National Governors' Association (NGA) called, "Integrating Data For Decision Makers." The NGA Conference is scheduled for May 6-9 and will highlight many of the natural resource issues of interest to Western county officials.

1990 could prove to be a pivotal year in the management of the nation's 350 million acres of public lands. The FY90 budgets of both of the major federal land management agencies, the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, reflect a greater emphasis on conservation programs.

One of President Bush's new initiatives is a $175 million America the Beautiful program whose objective is to plant some two billion new trees and acquire additional federal lands. In a March 4, 1990 article in the *New York Times*, it was reported that the U.S. Forest Service is "reflecting a change in its direction and a shift in the public's view of forests toward more concern for the environment."

The 1990 WIR Conference will address these changes and the implications they have for counties. Keynote speaker F. Dale Robertson is the chief of the U.S. Forest Service and smack in the middle of the controversial issues surrounding his agency. He will speak to the delegates about the issues confronting his agency, the effects they could have on county and school budgets, and what the decade of the 1990s is likely to hold for the many communities that depend on the use of natural resources for their survival.

Another major presentation will focus on, "The Dynamic West: A Region in Transition." Key demographic and economic changes which are altering the socioeconomic character of the region will be described by Allan Rose, executive director of Westrends, an organization of the Council of State Governments.

Changes such as high growth, more ethnic diversity, a changing work force and the importance of natural resources to communities will be detailed in an exciting slide presentation to the delegates.

With the changes that are occurring in the West, what do they mean for the survival of rural communities? The issue of community stability will be explored in depth in committee meetings and in presentations in workshops. How is community stability defined? What are the factors that can alter community survival? How can the issue of community stability be used to affect the policy-making process in Congress and in the federal land management agencies? These important questions will be answered by a panel of experts.

Another major topic will be, "How to Diversify a Local Economy." If changes in federal policies do affect rural communities, how can they prepare to replace lost jobs and to provide the retraining that may be necessary. An economic diversification workshop will feature the successful experiences that have occurred in other counties where economies have shifted through the loss of industry or closing of major military installations. The lessons learned in these communities will help delegates to prepare for changes that could occur in their own communities.

Downtown Anchorage offers first-class hotels and mo amenities, just minutes from exciting Alaskan adventur

Of all of the states, Alaska is probably the richest in the diversity of natural resources. Attention was riveted last year on one of our nations' largest natural disasters — the oil spill in The Gulf of Alaska which dumped approximately 10 million gallons of oil into Prince William Sound. Responding to an environmental disaster of magnitude presented a challenge to the s municipalities, and boroug Alaska. A major session at th Conference will focus o experiences of the oil spill a resulting clean up effort. Giv major events such as Hur Hugo and the San Fran earthquake which occurre year, the Alaska experience provide valuable insights planning, coordination execution of disaster prepare

As in past WIR Conference National Association of C Recorders and Clerks (NA will conduct a board of dir meeting as well as off certification program fo members. NACRC will sponsor a major program o new Bureau of Land Manag Land Information System will offer insights to counties exciting opportunity to information and data which benefit county planning assessment and tax collectio

County officials and their will find both the WIR Conf and the NGA Conferenc Building Information Partne a unique opportunity to comb experience in Alaska with information-packed confer Sightseeing trips, incl cruises, train, helicopter a tours, offer spectacular scen unforgettable experiences those delegates who regi spouse at the WIR Confere spouse tour of areas a Anchorage will be included registration fee.

For more information on and the NGA and Conferences, please chec booth that will be set up NACo's Legislative Confer

NACo Legislative Conference
ISSUES UPDATE

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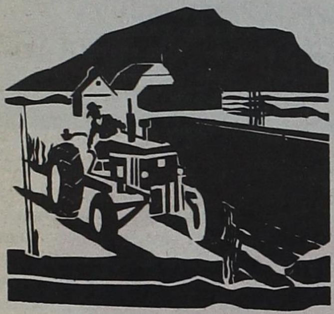
Table of Contents

ISSUES UPDATE

Agriculture and Rural Affairs



Staff Contacts:
Ralph Tabor & David Zimet

Rural Development

Issue: Both the Senate and House recognize the importance of promoting rural economic development in order to close the economic gap between urban and rural areas and to enhance the overall competitive position of the United States. The Senate passed legislation last August and the House is scheduled to vote on a bill during the week of March 12.

The Senate bill (S. 1036) provides for assistance and access to credit to small businesses; expands the role of rural electric coops in utility development, including telecommunications, credit to business is to be provided through revolving funds. Risk pools, a type of investment and loan guarantee fund, are to be used to promote the establishment of businesses in rural areas. Technical assistance is to be provided by the Cooperative Extension System and the Rural Electrification Administration. The Senate bill would cost about $300 million annually.

The House bill (H.R. 3581) would reorganize the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA).

A new Rural Development Administration would be created to deal with development programs. (Agriculture loans and crop insurance would stay with FmHA.) Each state would create a panel, represented by state and local officials and business interests, to rank local economic development applications. The secretary of Agriculture would use these recommendations in deciding which projects to fund.

There would be increased funding available for water and sewer projects and special funds for economically depressed, timber-dependent counties.

The House bill also calls for research on non-traditional uses of agricultural products. Like the Senate bill, the House bill calls for a large educational effort by the Cooperative Extension System in the area of business establishment and management. The cost of the bill would be about $170 million annually.

Status: The House Agriculture Committee approved H.R. 3581 on Feb. 27. An amendment to take water and sewer loan programs out of a statewide pool of rural development funds was defeated 25-18. The bill is scheduled to be considered on the House floor during the week of March 12. The water and sewer amendment is expected to be offered on the floor. As soon as the House completes action, the bill will go to an immediate House-Senate conference committee.

NACo Policy: NACo generally supported the Senate bill and worked for its approval. NACo supports the House bill and is opposed to any amendments that would restrict the flexibility of the statewide project review panel.

In the House-Senate conference committee, NACo will support the increased funding in the Senate bill and the decentralized decision making process in the House bill.

Proposed Rural Development Funding

Issue: Funding for all Department of Agriculture rural development programs was cut in President Bush's proposed budget. The cuts, however, were not as severe as in previous years.

Water and sewer loans went from $350 million to $300 million. Water and sewer grants would be decreased from $209 million to $100 million.

The business and industrial loan and grant programs would be terminated. Seventy million in unused loan funds would be available in FY91. Congress appropriated $95 million for loans and $16 million for grants for FY90.

The administration proposes reducing direct loans for single family housing from $1.31 billion to $609 million and to replace part of the funding — $596 million — with guaranteed loans. Rental housing loans would be cut from $572 million to $391 million.

Again, $190 million in housing vouchers are being proposed. Congress turned down the program previously.

The total amount being requested for the Extension Service is slightly below this year's appropriations — down from $396 million to $346 million.

However, there are significant shifts in proposed funding for national interest programs with water quality, youth at-risk, food safety and pesticide programs receiving increases.

Low-income nutrition and education programs would be cut from $58 million to $22 million and would require matching funds. The budget claims that the same number of people would be assisted with the additional matching funds.

It should be noted that in the Department of Commerce's budget, funding for the Economic Development Administration (EDA) would end. Congress appropriated $188 million for EDA's programs this year. This proposal has been included in many previous budgets and Congress has continued to fund EDA.

Status: The House and Senate Appropriations Committees are holding hearings on the administration's funding requests. The committees will not mark up funding bills until Congress passes a budget resolution.

NACo Policy: NACo supports funding at least at FY90 levels and will urge full funding in FY91 of the new rural development bill.

Rural Development Funding
(U.S. Department of Agriculture)
($ in millions)

	FY90	FY91
Water and Waste Grants	$209	$100
Water and Waste Loans	350	300
Water and Waste Loan Guarantees	75	50
Community Facility Loans	94	46
Business and Industry Grants	16	0
Business and Industry Loans	96	0
Fire Protection Grants	3	0
Resource Conservation and Development Loans	27	25

Farm Legislation

Issue: The 1985 Food Security Act expires in 1990. Because most farm organizations and many members of Congress believe that the act helped to restore stability to the farm sector and was an important factor in the improving financial conditions, there is support for continuing its basic directions.

It is believed, however, that some adjustments should be made to: promote better resource management/soil conservation; decrease dependence upon federal commodity programs; enhance the role the market plays in farm decisions; and maintain federal spending on commodity programs.

The required adjustments would promote flexibility in planting and in crop rotation decisions while at the same time providing some degree of income assurance or stability.

Although there is broad agreement that the farm bill should also deal with food safety/pesticide residue and environmental issues (soil conservation, wetlands preservation and protection, and water quality), there is disagreement as to the extent and purpose.

Environmental groups would like to have more restrictive definitions and regulations applied. Farm groups, on the other hand, prefer legislation with less government [...] lations because they start with the pre[...] that the farmer is a guardian of the env[...] ment, or would be, if properly inform[...] guided.

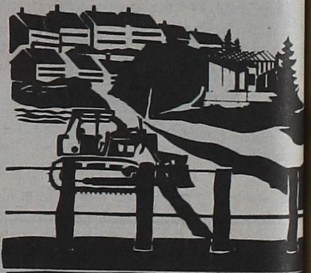
Many farm and state and l[...] government groups want to fund [...] research and education before restri[...] laws or regulations are adopted. It is not[...] how urban-based members of Congress [...] the situation, but members do react to i[...] as the Alarapple scare.

Status: Subcommittees of the H[...] and Senate Agriculture committees [...] holding public hearings on the various [...] of the farm legislation. House Agricu[...] Committee Chairman de la Garza (D-Te[...] introduced H.R. 3950 to be a guide to [...] subcommittees.

The bill extends the provisions of the [...] Food Security Act. The subcommittees [...] scheduled to report their titles by May 1[...] the full committee will mark up the ov[...] bill. It is not clear about the role of Se[...] subcommittees in drafting legislation s[...] this normally is done only at the [...] committee level. Both committees hop[...] have a bill ready for floor votes by e[...] summer.

NACo Policy: The NACo Agricul[...] and Rural Affairs Steering Commi[...] adopted a draft policy statement in Janu[...] The policy statement will be further revie[...] and presented to the NACo Board [...] Directors for approval at the Legisla[...] Conference.

Community and Economic Development



Staff Contact: Haron Battl[...]

The President's FY91 Budget

Issue: The president proposes increas[...] funding for the Department of Housing a[...] Urban Development (HUD).

However, this increase is more than off[...] by the $7.7 billion that is needed to rene[...] expiring Section 8 contracts.

The budget recommends terminating [...] number of programs and shifting funds fro[...] existing housing programs to a new Hom[...]

See next page

ISSUES UPDATE

wnership and Opportunity for People Eve-
ywhere (HOPE) initiative.

HOPE

HOPE, by and large, is a repackaging of ousing vouchers. Many of the 82,049 incre-ental units of assisted housing in the budget re earmarked for various components of OPE. The administration views HOPE as a ay to empower low-income families to chieve self-sufficiency, expand homeown-ship, help end the tragedy of homelessness d create jobs and economic opportunity.

The bulk of the $250 million recom-ended for HOPE grants, the only new oney in the package, is intended to support onversion of public housing, government-eld vacant and foreclosed properties, and stressed Federal Housing Administration HA) properties into homeownership op-rtunities for low-income families.

Grants could be used for acquisition, habilitation, technical assistance, counsel-g, capital and operating reserves, and eco-omic development activities associated ith homeownership. States, local govern-ents and non-profit organizations would be quired to match $1 for every $2 in federal ants.

HOPE grants, in the amount of $10 mil-on, would fund a demonstration project nking 1,500 vouchers with support services esigned to help the elderly remain inde-endent.

In support of public housing homeowner-hip, HOPE contains 6,000 Sec. 8 vouchers d certificates for relocation, replacement f units, rental assistance for non-purchasing nants, and post-sale subsidies for purchas-g tenants. However, no funds to construct eplacement units for those that concert to nant ownership are provided.

HOPE addresses conversion of low-in-ome apartments into market rate units fol-owing mortgage prepayments on HUD-as-isted, privately owned properties by includ-g 11,250 Sec. 8 vouchers and certificates at tenant groups could use to purchase operties. These tenants would receive the ll value of ten years of voucher funding. unds also could be used to continue projects ith low-income use restrictions and for re-ocation assistance.

HOPE would increase homeless assis-nce through a proposed Shelter Plus Care rogram designed to assist long-term home-ess individuals who are mentally ill or drug sers. This program would include 1,000 ec. 202(h) leased units, 6,000 vouchers nder a proposed Rental Housing Assistance or the Homeless program, and 1,305 Sec. 8 oderate Rehabilitation Single Room Occu-pancy (SRO) units. Sponsors would be re-uired to provide a dollar for dollar match resumably for supportive services.

HOPE would create 50 housing opportu-nity zones in urban cities and counties that emove regulatory and tax barriers to the onstruction and rehabilitation of affordable omeownership housing for low- and moder-te-income families. FHA insurance and ental rehabilitation grants would be targeted o these zones. Fifty enterprise zones would e designated along with tax incentives to timulate small business development and conomic growth.

The low-income housing tax credit would be extended for an additional year, and first-time homebuyers would be permitted to withdraw funds from Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA's)and other self-funded retirement accounts to help achieve homeownership.

Under Operation Bootstrap, public housing authorities, as a condition for receiving incremental Sec. 8 certificates and vouchers, would be required to enroll residents on welfare and those in low-paying jobs in supportive services like job training, child care and transportation that are designed for upward mobility. No funds are designated for Operation Bootstrap.

Housing Assistance

The 82,049 incremental units in the budget is roughly the number of assisted housing units that have been added to the low-income inventory in recent years. However, a different mix with more emphasis on five year housing vouchers is proposed.

No funds are recommended for public and Indian housing construction, Sec. 8 Moderate Rehabilitation, and the Nehemiah program.

The Sec. 312 rehabilitation loan program is slated for termination and rental rehabilitation grants would be reduced from $128 million in 1990 to $70 million in 1991.

Sec. 202 housing for the elderly and handicapped would be cut by 45 percent. The administration proposes a new lease program in which non-profit sponsors would use Sec. 8 to lease housing for the elderly and handicapped.

Rural housing direct loans would be reduced 40 percent. Approximately half of the Farmers Home Administration lending programs would be converted to loan guarantee programs.

Even counting units financed by loan guarantees, the budget cuts new rural housing units by 15 percent. Perhaps as a trade-off, 8,000 rural housing vouchers are proposed for the first time.

Community Development

The president proposes a $163 million reduction in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program from $2.915 billion in 1990 to $2.752 in 1991 — a 5.6 percent cut in current dollars and a 9.5 percent decrease after adjusting for inflation. He recommends that new housing construction become an eligible CDBG activity.

In addition, the administration will submit legislation to restrict the program's local flexibility by requiring use of proportionate accounting in calculating low- and moderate-income benefit, increasing targeting of benefits to low- and moderate-income persons from 60 to 75 percent, imposing certification that grantees are following an anti-poverty strategy, and requiring affluent communities to use all CDBG funds on activities that address the low- and moderate-income benefit objective.

The budget proposes elimination of the Sec. 108 loan guarantee program and the Economic Development Administration.

Status: The administration has not transmitted legislation to Capitol Hill authorizing the HOPE initiative and proposing changes in CDBG.

NACo Policy: No policy specifically on the HOPE package. NACo opposes cuts in existing community development, economic development and housing programs, and supports a $4 billion appropriation for CDBG. NACo also supports comprehensive strategies to preserve the federally assisted stock of low-income housing.

National Affordable Housing Act (S. 566)

Issue: This bipartisan legislation is co-sponsored by Senators Cranston (D-Calif.), chairman of the Senate Housing and Urban Affairs Subcommittee and D'Amato (R-N.Y.), the subcommittee's ranking minority member. S. 566 contains comprehensive new affordable housing initiatives.

Establishment of the HOME corporation is a centerpiece of this legislation. HOME would provide technical assistance, guarantee pools of mortgages formed by state and local governments and administer the Housing Opportunity Partnerships (HOP) program.

Under HOPE, a housing trust fund would be established for each state and local government that qualifies for a direct allocation. A jurisdiction would draw down from its housing trust to invest in affordable homeownership and rental properties.

State and local governments would be given considerable flexibility in designing housing strategies which addresses local housing needs.

The bill contains an assortment of other provisions. It would permit first-time home buyers to use IRA's and 401(k) retirement plans for down payments. FHA down payment requirements would be lowered, and FHA ceilings would be based on area median sales prices.

S. 566 would reauthorize the CDBG program; establish rental credits that combine the best features of Sec. 8 certificates and vouchers; distribute McKinney homeless assistance by formula; expand supportive housing programs for elderly, frail elderly and handicapped persons; and reauthorize rural housing.

Status: The Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee has scheduled a markup for early spring. Markup has been delayed to allow the administration time to give Congress its authorization package containing the HOPE initiative and legislative changes to existing programs.

NACo Policy: Conceptually supports the framework of the HOP program. However, NACo recommends revisions in the way HOP funds would be allocated.

The bill equally divides HOP formula funds between states and entitlement local governments.

NACo supports allocating 70 percent of HOP funds to entitlement jurisdiction and 30 percent to states for distribution in non-entitlement localities.

NACo supports reauthorization and restoration of the CDBG program without changes which would reduce program flexibility.

The Housing and Community Development Act of 1989 (H.R. 1180)

Issue: H.R. 1180, sponsored by Rep. Gonzalez (D-Texas), chairman of both the House Banking Committee and its Housing Subcommittee, would reauthorize housing and community development programs for two years. The CDBG program would be reauthorized at its current level of $3 billion.

The bill contains several new initiatives. One is a housing trust fund, annually funded at $500 million, to subsidize mortgages for first-time home buyers. Interest rates would not exceed 6 percent, and the interest subsidy would be repayable upon sale of the home. Recipients' household income could not exceed 115 percent of the area median income.

For rental housing production, the bill revises the rental development grants program (HoDAG) that was terminated in 1987.

H.R. 1180 also would create a Community Housing Partnership program to enable non-profit developers to maintain, rehabilitate and construct rental and home ownership housing for low- and moderate-income families.

This program would be funded annually at $500 million. The bulk of funds would be allocated by formula to state and local governments which, in turn, would have to make funds available to non-profit sponsors.

Status: The Housing and Community Development Subcommittee is expected to schedule markup on H.R. 1180 this spring.

NACo Policy: NACo supports reauthorization and restoration of the CDBG program at $4 billion. NACo is concerned with a bias in H.R. 1180 for non-profit developers.

Enterprise Zone Improvements Act of 1989 (H.R. 6 and S. 58)

Issue: H.R. 6 and S. 58 would strengthen the federal enterprise zone program in the following ways:

- provide tax credits to employers for employment-related expenses, to employees for certain wages and to investors for the cost of enterprise zone property used in construction;
- defer capital gains tax on the sale of property in the zone if the proceeds are reinvested in other zone property;
- lift the 40-year depreciation requirement for residential rental property or other newly constructed zone property financed with tax-exempt bonds and used for a trade or business; and
- lift restrictions for small issue industrial development bonds used to finance zone facilities.

See next page

ISSUES UPDATE

Status: The House Committee on Ways and Means has completed hearings on H.R. 6. Mark-up has not been scheduled.

NACo Policy: NACo supports enterprise zones as a supplement to, but not a substitute for, other federal development programs. Zones should be equitably designated throughout the nation and in rural as well as urban counties. The selection process should assure local control and should not be contingent upon the willingness of local governments to match federal incentives through local tax abatement.

Public Works and Economic Development Act Amendments of 1989 (H.R. 2015)

Issue: H.R. 2015 would reauthorize the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) through FY92. The authorized level for EDA would be $250 million annually for new construction and improvement of public facilities, revolving loan funds for small businesses and employee stock ownership organizations, grants to commercial development organizations to help small businesses by reducing interest rates for economic development, and grants for economic development and strategic planning.

The bill would authorize $144 million annually for ARC highway programs and $37.5 million for non-highway programs.

Status: The Committee on Public Works and Transportation has reported out H.R. 2015 for House floor action.

NACo Policy: Supports reauthorization of EDA and ARC.

Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Act of 1989 (S. 980 and H.R. 2319)

Issue: Authority for low-income housing tax credits has been extended through Dec. 31, 1990. Last year, the $1.25 per capita allocation to each state was reduced to $0.9375 per capita. The following substantive changes also were made:

• allows up to the full nine percent credit when used in conjunction with CDBG funds;

• permits a one-year carry forward of unused credit authority; if unused thereafter, it is placed in a national pool for reallocation;

• requires states to consult with the chief executive of the locality in which a project is located before allocating credits and allow a reasonable opportunity for comment;

• prohibits use of the credit with Sec. 8 Moderate Rehabilitation program;

• extends the low-income occupancy restrictions from 15 to 30 years. If a project owner is unable to transfer the property at the end of the initial 15-year compliance period, the allocating agency is allowed one year to find an eligible buyer at a price based on indebtedness and investor equity contributions. If no buyer is found, the project may convert to market rate use, with existing low-income tenants grandfathered for three years;

• permits a higher credit in HUD-defined high-cost areas;

• provides that no credit may be taken for acquisition unless substantial rehabilitation is undertaken;

• eliminates the $250,000 investor income cap;

• reduces from 70 percent to 50 percent the amount of a project's financing via tax-exempt bonds in order to qualify for the four percent credit without needing a state credit allocation;

• expands the credit's availability to transitional housing for the homeless including the portion of a building used for supportive services. SRO's with month-to-month leases are made eligible;

• requires state formulation of an allocation plan containing selection criteria which gives highest priority to those projects serving the lowest income persons for the longest period of time and with the lowest percentage of intermediary costs; and

• requires that a project be allocated only as much credit as necessary to insure project financial feasibility.

Status: Efforts are underway to permanently extend low-income housing tax credits and allow full nine percent credit when used in conjunction with tax-exempt bonds.

NACo Policy: Supports extension of low-income housing tax credits and removal of the penalty when tax credits are used with other assistance.

Extension of the Mortgage Revenue Bond and Mortgage Credit Certificate Programs (S. 355 and H.R. 1200)

Issue: The Mortgage Revenue Bond (MRB) and Mortgage Credit Certificate (MCC) programs have been extended through Sept. 30, 1990. The original versions of S. 355 and H.R. 1200 would have extended these programs for three years.

Status: Efforts are underway to permanently extend these programs.

NACo Policy: Supports extension of MRB's and MCC's.

Employment

Staff Contact: Larry Jones

Job Training Partnership Act Amendments (S. 543 and H.R. 2039)

Issue: This legislation ould change the distribution formula and redirect funds to areas with larger concentrations of economically disadvantaged individuals, and target services to specific groups (i.e. school dropouts, teen parents and long-term welfare clients) in order to expand services to the most needy. Services to disadvantaged youths would be expanded, fixed-unit-price, performance-based contracting would be eliminated under provisions in the House bill and restricted under provisions in the Senate bill.

Status: The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee approved legislation (S. 543) on Sept.14, 1989. However, a few senators have expressed concerns about the proposed elimination of set-asides, changes in the distribution formula, and other aspects of the bill. Senator Simon (D-Ill.), sponsor of the Senate bill, is hoping for Senate floor action by mid to late March or early April. The House Education and Labor Committee has held several hearings on its bill, but is not expected to take any further action until after members return from the Easter recess on April 18.

NACo Policy: Our overriding concerns are maintaining flexibility to address local needs and obtaining adequate funds to support, at the very least, current client service levels. Local flexibility must be maintained not only in defining the most needy in a given locality, but also in designing programs to address the unique needs of local clients and employers.

NACo opposes the elimination and the imposition of unnecessary restrictions on fixed-unit-price, performance-based contracting. While NACo is supportive of increasing services to the most needy, Congress is urged to increase JTPA funds to offset the additional costs associated with training such clients. Further, Congress is urged to adopt the U.S. Department of Labor's proposed amendment which would allow the continuation of fixed-unit-price performance-based contracting, while addressing problems that have been reported in the procurement system.

Workforce 2000 (H.R. 3266)

Issue: This bill would tighten procurement procedures for contr ing by increasing record keeping and rep ing requirements. This would eliminate flexibility local areas now have to e fixed-unit-price, performance-based c tracting. It would also create a one perc set-aside for child care services, a new D sion of Indian and Native American P grams in the U.S. Department of Labor, a new Juvenile Offender Demonstrat Project.

Status: Rep. Martinez (D-Cali chairman, House Employment Opportu ties Subcommittee, plans to hold mark up the near future and hopes to get as much of t language from this bill as possible incorp rated in H.R. 2039, the full committee's b

NACo Policy: Although NACo h not taken a position on the bill, current poli supports the U.S. Department of Labor proposed amendment that would addre problems identified in the procurement sy tems and allow the continuation of fixe unit-price, performance-based contractin Current policy also opposes set-asides a creation of additional demonstration pr grams that would reduce the amount of fun available to local service delivery areas an duplicate existing services.

Displaced Homemakers Employment Training and Self-Sufficiency Act (H.R. 3069)

Issue: This would amend JTPA to establish a separate program to provide job training assistance to displaced homemakers. It would require the governor of each state to designate an administrator and advisory council. The administrator would be authorized to select service providers in local areas.

Status: Rep. Martinez, who introduced the measure, will soon hold mark up and is expected to try to get as much of the language from this bill as possible incorporated in H.R. 2039.

NACo Policy: Opposes set-asides and new programs that would establish a dual job training delivery system.

Targeted Jobs Tax Credit Extension (H.R. 2098 and S. 720)

Issue: The program is scheduled to expire on Sept. 30, 1990. Last year, 23- and 24-year-olds were eliminated from the list of youths eligible for participating in the youth portion of the program. The proposed amendments would extend the program for

See next page

ISSUES UPDATE

e years and restore eligibility for 23- and year-olds in the youth portion. Under this gram, employers are given tax credits for ng economically disadvantaged and other ible individuals.

Status: No action has been scheduled on bills at this time.

NACo Policy: While NACo does not e a position on the bill, it has been suppor- of extensions in the past.

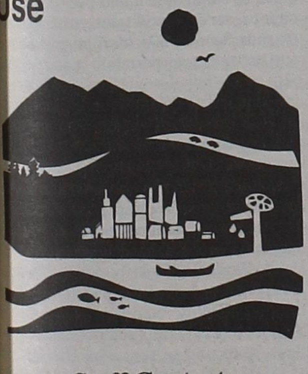
pplied Technology ducation Amendments f 1989 .R. 7 and S. 1109)

ssue: The House bill would create a , single Human Investment Council to ace state councils for JTPA, vocational cation, adult and basic education, voca- al rehabilitation, and the Jobs Opportuni- and Basic Skills program, the new job ning program for welfare clients. The slation would extend the program for five rs and increase the authorization of funds m $1.1 billion to $1.5 billion.

Status: The House bill passed on May 9, 89 by a vote of 403 - 2. The Senate Labor Human Resources Committee approved 109 on Nov. 1, 1989. Senate floor action xpected to be completed by mid-March.

NACo Policy: While NACo supports e single council concept, states should have e option of replacing the councils for the encies mentioned above. The administra- e cost of the single council should be ared proportionately among the several ograms.

nvironment, nergy and Land se



Staff Contact:
Barbara Paley

Clean Air Act Reauthorization (S. 1630, H.R. 2323 and H.R. 3030)

Issue: After two years of talking about a reauthorization of the Clean Air Act of 1977, the White House and both houses of Congress have finally begun to make real progress along the legislative road leading to the revision and extension of the clean air program.

All the areas that failed to meet the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) ozone and carbon monoxide standards have been vulnerable to EPA sanctions and to citizens suits since Aug. 31, 1988.

Sanctions can include a cutoff of federal highway and sewer construction funds and possibly a mandated local ban on construction of facilities that contributed to pollution. All of the non-attainment bills would extend the deadlines from three to 25 years (depending on the severity of the non-attainment problem), tighten the requirements for locally imposed controls, impose varying degrees of mobile source controls rely to some extent, on the use of alternative fuels, and mandate additional EPA national controls.

Status: The Senate is currently debating S. 1630. After several weeks of intensive negotiations, the administration, the bipartisan Senate leadership, and key members of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee have come to an agreement on a compromise clean air package.

It includes a modified two-stage control of tailpipe emissions, an alternative fuels program, strict controls on toxic air pollutants, a 10 million ton reduction in sulfur dioxide and a four million ton reduction in nitrogen oxide, and incentives for utilities to reduce emissions through technology controls rather than switching to low sulfur coal. The pact is being attacked by industry groups as too expensive, and by environment groups and state and local air pollution control officials as too weak.

The House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment has reported out a modified version of H.R. 3030 to the full Energy and Commerce Committee. The Energy and Power Subcommittee is about to begin markup on the acid rain provisions of the bill. Markup by the full committee is expected in mid-March with some indications that the bill may be scheduled for House floor action in April.

Given the large number of important issues that will probably need to addressed in a House-Senate Conference Committee, there probably will not be a bill on the president's desk until September or October 1990.

NACo Policy: NACo testified in favor of the general approach of H.R. 2323 and S. 1630. NACo supports control measures and attainment deadlines tied to the severity of the problem; sanctions only for failing to submit or implement an attainment plan; and effective mobile source controls.

We are concerned that the mobile source controls in the new Senate compromise bill may be too weak, and that the absence of stronger federal controls may make attainment by many areas much more difficult by the dates specified in the legislation.

NACo supports acid rain legislation that would reduce sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions from stationary and mobile sources, opposes the general taxing of energy utilities which does not reflect the achievements already made toward abatement, and supports the "polluter pays" principle.

Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) (H.R. 3735, S. 1112 and S. 1113)

Issue: RCRA is the basic framework legislation which regulates the disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous solid waste. The act expired on Sept. 30, 1988, but the programs under its jurisdiction have been funded through the current fiscal year. The 1984 RCRA reauthorization concentrated primarily on Subtitle C which deals with hazardous waste. Legislation being considered in this Congress focuses more on Subtitle D, which regulates non- hazardous wastes such as ordinary household and commercial trash. S. 1113 emphasizes the establishment of statewide comprehensive solid waste management plans, the promulgation of tough new EPA regulations for incinerator emissions, ash disposal and infectious and medical waste. It also establishes recycling and waste reduction goals for states to meet starting in 1993. S 1112 bill sets similar recycling and waste reduction goals, and it prevents the permitting of any waste-to-energy plant unless the community is engaged in recycling to the maximum extent.

Status: The House and Senate subcommittees held hearings on their respective RCRA bills. However, it is unlikely that there will be any serious activity on these measures in either house in this Congress, due to the fact that they are assigned to the same committees that have jurisdiction over the Clean Air Act.

NACo Policy: NACo supports a reauthorization of the RCRA legislation which facilitates the development of integrated solid waste management strategies or the part of local governments. NACo supports the development of a national materials use policy. NACo's priorities are first, waste reduction and recycling, second, resource recovery, and third, landfills meeting uniform standards. NACo believes that counties must be involved in the development of statewide solid waste plans. NACo believes that local governments must have flexibility in the development and implementation of those plans and should be allowed to make their own determinations about how much recycling is feasible. NACo supports the promulgation of reasonable federal standards for control of air emissions and the disposal of ash residue, but opposes over-regulation that is neither necessary nor cost-effective.

Budget Request — The Water Quality Act of 1987

Issue: Although the law provides $2.4 billion for FY91 in federal funds to state and local governments for construction of sewage treatment plants, the Bush administration submitted a budget request for $1.6 billion.

Status: House and Senate Appropriations Committees are presently holding hearings on the FY91 appropriations for the EPA, including the sewage treatment construction program.

NACo Policy: NACo supports an appropriation for the full authorized amount of $2.4 billion.

Coastal Zone Management Act (H.R. 4030)

Issue: This program was reauthorized for five years — FY86 through FY89 — during the 99th Congress. In return for the five-year authorization, the supporters of the legislation agreed to an increase in the states' matching share by 10 percent a year from the present 20 percent to an eventual 50 percent. The president's budget requested no funding for these programs and has sought to reprogram some of the FY89 funds.

Status: H.R. 4030, a bill to reauthorize the Coastal Zone Management Act, was introduced in February by the Chairman of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. No action has been scheduled.

NACo Policy: Supports the national coastal zone program and supports funding for the full $37 million authorized. Opposes the reprogramming of the 1989 appropriation. NACo also supports the reauthorization of the program.

The American Heritage Trust Act (H.R. 876 and S. 370)

Issue: The legislation would establish the American Heritage Trust to be comprised of the existing Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Historic Preservation Fund. The funding for these programs would continue to come from offshore oil and gas revenues, but the money would go into interest-bearing trust accounts. This approach was recommended by the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors.

Status: The House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee has reported the bill out. No action in the Senate.

NACo Policy: NACo supports the concept of the American Heritage Trust only if it contains a series of provisions, including: limiting the ability of the federal government to purchase additional land in counties with more than 50 percent public land ownership without the approval of the affected county; requiring compensation for the loss of additional tax bases as a result of further federal acquisition, and prohibiting the grant of federal funds to private, non-profit organizations for land acquisition without the approval of the affected county.

See next page

ISSUES UPDAT

Health

Staff Contact:
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AIDS (H.R. 4080 and S. 2240)

Issue: Senator Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Reps. Waxman (D-Calif.) have introduced separate pieces of legislation that will provide the focus for any AIDS bill this session.

The Kennedy package includes direct impact aid to the chief elected official of the 13 urban counties or cities with the highest incidence of AIDS. In language proposed by NACo and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the money would initially go to the chief elected official with primary responsibility for public health.

NACo has been very active in ensuring that local governments have a substantial role in the bill. The chief elected official will also appoint and serve on a planning council to distribute funds. Funding available under Title I could be used for a variety of services, including those provided by public hospitals, clinics, out-patient and ambulatory care.

Title II of the bill would provide funding to all states to develop local consortia of public and private health agencies to provide a continuum of care to HIV-infected individuals.

A variety of services including home health, therapeutics, insurance coverage and early intervention services would be eligible for funding. If a state has one percent or more of the total AIDS cases nationwide, then 50 percent of the Title II money would go to consortia. The overall authorization level is $250 million for each title.

Title III directs the Federal Agency for Health Care Policy and Research to research, evaluate and assess AIDS service delivery and financing mechanisms.

Rep. Waxman's bill, the "Medicaid, AIDS and HIV Amendments of 1990," H.R. 4080, is a four-pronged approach, including allowing states to use Medicaid for low-income persons with HIV to pay for drugs, physicians services, laboratory services and other outpatient care. A second portion of H.R. 4080 requires states to increase Medicaid payments to hospitals serving disproportionate numbers of persons with AIDS.

Third, the bill allows states to use Medicaid to pay premiums of income-eligible persons with HIV who lost their jobs. Finally, the Waxman bill allows states to opt into coverage of Medicaid, Home or Community-Based Care for children with AIDS. The Congressional Budget Office does not yet have a cost estimate for the bill.

Rep. Waxman is expected to also introduce an AIDS testing and confidentiality bill later this session. Kennedy and Waxman staff have had discussions on their respective bills to ensure that the provisions in the bills are similar for a future House/Senate conference committee.

Status: Rep. Waxman held a hearing on AIDS financing issues on Feb. 27. Grady Memorial Hospital in Fulton County, Ga. and Jackson Memorial Medical Center in Dade County, Fla. were the two public hospitals requested to testify. No markup has been scheduled. Sen. Kennedy is expected to hold a hearing on his bill in late March with a markup later in the spring.

NACo Policy: Because of the local government language in the Kennedy bill and his willingness to accept most of NACo's amendments, NACo has initially endorsed the bill. NACo policy is very strong on supporting AIDS funding for prevention, education and treatment.

National Health Service Corps (NHSC)

Issue: The Corps, essentially gutted under the Reagan administration, is up for reauthorization this year. The Bush administration has proposed funding for the NHSC and NACo has joined numerous health groups to urge Congress to revitalize it.

Draft bills are being prepared by Senators Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Packwood (R-Ore.) and Reps. Cooper (D-Tenn.), Slattery (D-Kan.) and Waxman (D-Calif.). All the drafts recognize that both the scholarships and loan repayment programs are important, as well as the need to provide a sufficient number of slots for mid-level practitioners.

There is some debate about establishing priorities for health manpower shortage areas (HMSA's), such as incidence of infant mortality, AIDS and drug abuse. There is concern that some factors, if included, will slant the program toward urban HMSA's.

The bills also attempt to improve retention of Corps members and will focus scholarships and loan payments to candidates more likely to enter primary care fields. Lobbying groups in Washington are meeting to attempt to arrive at a consensus bill so that marking up the bills will go as smoothly as possible.

Status: Bills were still in draft stages as this update went to press. NACo joined a coalition letter to Congress urging prompt reauthorization of the Corps.

NACo Policy: Supports the promotion and expansion of the NHSC. Favors the use of a broad range of health professionals and improved geographic distribution of Corps personnel.

Tax-Exempt Status of Non-Profit Hospitals (H.R. 2207)

Issue: See Taxation and Finance Section. The Health Committee will be working closely with that steering committee to urge the Congress to tie an indigent care disproportionate share measure to a non-profit hospital's ability to raise tax-exempt bonds in excess of the $150 million volume cap applying to other 501(c)(3) entities.

Health Objectives 2000 Act (S. 2056)

Issue: Senator Harkin (D-Iowa) and 18 other senators have introduced legislation to begin implementing the 1988 Institute of Medicine Future of Public Health report and provide funding to achieve the Year 2000 Health Objectives which will be released this summer.

The legislation creates a National Health Objectives Advisory Committee, composed of nine members, including a representative from the National Association of County Health Officials. The committee shall advise the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on the selection, revision, implementation and evaluation of national health priorities.

To receive funds, each state would submit a State Health Objectives Plan to HHS. The plan would include a specific set of at least five objectives, including all the core priorities identified by HHS.

The state budget would identify the portion of funds to be used at the state and local government levels, and a description of the mechanisms the state will use to monitor and distribute funding to local health agencies. The bill authorizes a level of $300 million in FY91 rising to $400 million by FY95.

Status: No hearings or markups are scheduled.

NACo Policy: While NACo supports the concept of funding to improve the nation's public health infrastructure, it believes the language of the bill could be strengthened even further to ensure that local governments and their health departments are full partners with the state and federal governments in implementing the Year 2000 Health Objectives.

NACo also has concerns over the funding allotments per state which, rather than allocating funds on a state's pro rata share of the nation's population, has arbitrary population cut-offs to determine the amount of funding per state. NACo will work to strengthen the local government language.

Medicaid Expansions (H.R. 3931, 3932, 3933, 3934 and 3935)

Issue: In early February, Rep. Waxman and numerous co-sponsors, reintroduced a package of Medicaid expansions that will again shape the debate on any possible additional coverage under the program.

Included in the package of five bills are raising mandatory coverage of pregnant women and infants to 185 percent of poverty, H.R. 3931; phasing in all children up to age 18 at 100 percent of poverty H.R. 3932; giving states the option to offer comm care services to Medicaid-eligible fra erly, H.R. 3933; giving states the opt offer community habilitation and s services to the Medicaid-eligible me retarded H.R. 3934; and mandating states offer hospice coverage to termin Medicaid beneficiaries, H.R. 3935.

Status: As in previous years, thes are expected to be offered as amendme this year's reconciliation bill. Last year, of the bills were dropped from the final age, with the exception of increasing caid coverage to pregnant women, i and children below age six with incom to 133 percent of poverty. The na governors are expected to oppose these expansions.

Last summer they asked for a two moratorium on expansions because of rapidly rising Medicaid budgets. They expressed their concerns during their w meeting in late February. This summ incoming chairman of the National Go nors' Association, Gov. Booth Gardner Wash.), will make health the associati priority issue.

NACo Policy: While NACo sup Medicaid expansions as one means of re ing larger indigent care costs, it has be staff discussions with the Governors' A ciation, the National Conference of S Legislatures and city groups to find com areas of agreement. Preliminary discussi are underway to have a meeting of the as ciations' elected leadership on state and lo government health issues.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (S. 933 and H.R. 2273)

Issue: The bill, which essentially co fies the Section 504 regulations of the 19 Rehabilitation Act would prohibit public a private sector discrimination against the d abled in employment and public accomm dations, services and transportation. AD extends Section 504 into the private sec and expands transportation requirements.

Status: With the support of Preside Bush, the Senate passed its bill in Septem 1989 by a vote of 76-8. The House bill h more than 220 co-sponsors. Five Hou committees have asked for referral of the bi with the Education and Labor Committe passing its section by a vote of 35-0 before th Thanksgiving adjournment. The Hous Public Works and Transportation Committe is expected to look closely at the transporta tion accessibility requirements and their as sociated costs. Anti-discrimination provi sions protecting persons with HIV infectio or AIDS was controversial in the Sena debate and could prove to be an issue in th House as well.

NACo Policy: NACo supports th non-discrimination in employment provi sions of Section 504 and the ADA. NACo is discussing the transportation requiremen with the House.

See next page

ISSUES UPDATE

atastrophic Illness enefits Restoration .R. 3880)

Issue: After last year's overwhelming eal of the Medicare Catastrophic Cover- Act, some members of Congress are ing to restore a few of the benefits. nsored by Reps. Stark (D-Calif.) and dison (R-Ohio), who are chair and rank- minority members, respectively, of the use Ways and Means Health Subcommit- , the bill would restore mammography eening, expansion of home health and pice services, and in-home respite care. ty-nine other members are original co- nsors.

The bill covers biennial mammography eenings for women 65 years and older and iodic screenings for women beginning at e 35.

Other provisions include up to 38 days per ar of home health, up to 80 hours per year espite care and elimination of the 210-day efit period for hospice services. To pay the services, the Medicare Part B pre- um would increase by 80 cents per month 1991.

Status: A hearing was held on Feb. 27, 90. Because of the outcry over the compre- nsive bill last year, passage of even this odest package is uncertain.

NACo Policy: Supported these provi- ons of the catastrophic illness legislation.

OBRA '87 Nursing Home Reform

Issue: A number of regulations imple- enting the 1987 nursing home reform legis- ation will be released in the coming weeks. Regulations on nurse aide training, pre- admission screening and annual resi- dent review (PASARR) are due in mid- March. The Health Care Financing Admini- stration (HCFA) regulations need to address he nurse aide training questions left unre- solved in the statute, including what exactly constitutes length of time worked or training needed for purposes of competency, and is- sues around enhanced funding for admini- stration of the requirements.

For PASARR, residents or applicants to nursing homes are required to be screened for mental illness or retardation (MI/MR). According to law, if a person is diagnosed as MI/MR and has lived in a nursing home for less than 30 months, they are to be discharged if all they need is mental health services. There is great concern over the availability of other more appropriate residences.

Status: As of this writing, the regula- tions were on the desk of HHS Secretary Louis Sullivan.

NACo Policy: On record supporting more reasonable implementation dates. Awaits the regulations.

Rural Health Improvement Act (S. 2214)

Issue: Senator Packwood (R-Ore.) has introduced an Omnibus bill of rural health initiatives. The bill includes eliminating the Medicare urban-rural payment differential by Jan. 1, 1991 rather than 1995; revitalizing the National Health Service Corps; providing funds directly to county health departments for preventive and health education services; extending Medicare reimbursement to nurse practitioners in rural areas; and providing tax incentives to physicians, nurses practitioners and physician assistants for the first five years of practice in a rural area.

Status: Introduced on March 1 with seven Republican co-sponsors.

NACo Policy: Supports rural health initiatives, including many of those proposed in S. 2214.

Drug Treatment

See Justice and Public Safety Section.

The Pepper Commission

Issue: On March 2, the Pepper Commission recommended an $86.2 billion program providing health insurance and long-term care to all Americans. The panel was unable to agree on how to finance the proposal. The panel voted 8-7 on a $43.4 billion program providing health coverage to the uninsured. Of the total, $20 billion would be paid by businesses with more than 100 employees with tax credits offered to smaller employers to encourage them to provide insurance. The $42.8 billion long-term care package, approved by a vote of 11-4, would provide the "severely disabled" with an initial three months of free care. Federal and state governments would pay for nursing home care for individuals with less than $30,000 in assets or couples with less than $60,000. Home and community-based care would also be available.

Status: Because of the enormous cost and the commission's inability to propose a financing mechanism, there is no chance of enactment of the programs in this Congress. The Advisory Council on Social Security and the HHS task force, chaired by Undersecretary Constance Horner, are also expected to make recommendations later this year.

NACo Policy: Supports a comprehensive system of universal access through state, local and private sector efforts with consideration given to small business needs.

Human Services and Education

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Refugee Resettlement Program

Issue: Counties are responsible for providing health, welfare and social services to persons residing within their boundaries, regardless of their legal status. It was the stated intent of Congress that during FY90, states and local governments would be reimbursed fully for the costs of providing cash and medical assistance to refugees during the first 12 months they reside in the United States.

However, the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) determined that FY90 appropriations were insufficient to cover the first 12 months of categorical aid (Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) Social Security) and medical (Medicaid) programs. Subsequently, ORR reduced this program to four months. Also, ORR determined that there were insufficient monies to cover the costs of 12 months of special refugee cash and medical assistance (RCA/RMA) and unaccompanied minor (UM) programs. ORR is estimating a 20 percent shortfall in this current fiscal year.

This shortfall is directly related to the president's consultation process for refugee resettlement which increased the level of refugee admissions for FY90 from 84,000 to 125,000. This action placed an increased fiscal burden on counties, limiting the availability of critical employment and social services to refugees.

Status: Discussions are being held with members of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education — key among them is Senator Hatfield (R-Ore.) who has been an advocate for refugees in the past. In the House, discussions are underway with Reps. Obey (D-Wis.) and Roybal (D-Calif.) of the Appropriations Subcommittee.

NACo Policy: NACo urges Congress to approve a supplemental appropriations of $52 million for the domestic refugee resettlement program. This amount would ensure that states and counties would receive the full 12 month reimbursements intended by law for FY90. Federal funding should continue at the 100 percent reimbursement level for financial assistance, medical care, social services, employment services, and education until a reasonable level of self-support and independence has been reached by refugees.

Food Stamps (H.R. 4110)

Issue: The federal Food stamp Act of 1977 is up for reauthorization this year. The Food Stamp program is designed to improve the nutrition of low-income people by providing coupons to cover part or all of a household.

In fact, the Food Stamp program has become an income-support program rather than an agricultural surplus program. Its administration by the Department of Agriculture separate from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), has resulted in a completely separate eligibility and budget determination process from the cash grant program, adding to the complexity and error rates in the welfare departments where such determination is carried out. It has been estimated that the outstanding Food Stamp quality control sanctions resulting from these error rates is $274 million (1982-1985)

In late February, a bipartisan package of reforms in the Food Stamp program was introduced by Reps. Panetta (D-Calif.), Emerson (R- Mo.), Hatcher (D-Ga.), and Hall (D-Ohio). The bill, H.R. 4110, is called the Mickey Leland Memorial Hunger Relief Act.

It includes the following provisions:

- eliminates the cap on deductible shelter expenses.
- excludes the first $40 a month paid as child support in determining food stamp allotments.
- raises basic food stamp benefits in stages to a level that reflects the actual current cost of purchasing the Thrifty Food Plan;
- eases the way for needy families to receive benefits to which they are entitled and to strengthen employment and training programs;
- establishes a commission on coordination of family support and food stamp policies; and
- forgives quality control sanctions through FY90.

Status: Senator Leahy (D-Vt.), chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee is expected to introduce legislation identical to the Mickey Leland bill. In late March, Senators Sasser (D-Tenn.), Domenici (R-N.M.), and Leahy will introduce a second hunger bill in the Senate. The final legislation will be included in the 1990 farm bill. Both the House and Senate Agriculture Committees hope to have bills on the floor by early summer.

NACo Policy: In the long-range plan for work security and income security, there would be no need for the Food Stamp program.

NACo proposes a number of necessary interim reform measures to make the program more manageable and more consistent with other programs, particularly AFDC.

See next page

ISSUES UPDATE

Child Care (S. 5 and H.R. 3)

Issue: Efforts to complete action on legislation to establish a comprehensive program for child care were stalled in the House in the final week of the first session ending in November 1989.

A compromise $1.75 billion child care package had been worked out by conferees from the House and Senate Labor Committees but was unacceptable to other key legislators in the House.

On June 23, 1989, the Senate passed the Act for Better Child Care (ABC) S. 5. ABC authorizes a $1.75 billion grant program and approximately $2 billion in tax credits to improve child care quality, increase its availability and provide assistance to lower-income families needing child care. The grant program would provide funding to states for direct payments for child care services.

States would be allowed to set their own standards within specific categories. In addition to the grant program, the final bill also incorporates tax credit proposals that include modification of the dependent care tax credit, the earned income tax credit and a new tax credit for childrens' health insurance.

On the House side, the Education and Labor Committee introduced the Child Development and Education Act (H.R. 3). The Hawkins bill, named after the bill's sponsor Rep. Hawkins (D-Calif.), would authorize $1.75 billion in spending to expand the Head Start program, fund local school-based preschool programs and provide grants to states to subsidize child care for low-income families and improve the quality of care, like the Senate ABC bill.

Prior to approval of H.R. 3 by the full House, the Ways and Means Committee marked up the Hawkins bill and proposed an alternative. This alternative would authorize an initial $200 million increase in the Title XX Social Services Block Grant and earmark these funds for child care.

This alternative also included the tax credit component as well as several mandates on states, including a training requirement for child care workers and mandated inspections of family-based providers. Congress recessed before final action was taken.

Status: Although the Democratic congressional leadership indicated that child care legislation was high on the priority list when Congress reconvened in January, there has been no action in the House.

NACo Policy: NACo supports the compromise child care legislative agreement that was worked out by the conferees. This agreement provides for direct grant approaches to child care; allows states to establish their own standards for child care services; maintains the current flexibility in the Title XX Social Services Block Grant; supports existing local advisory groups instead of creating another level of bureaucracy; provides flexibility in the training of child care providers; and allows counties to apply directly in the event that a state chooses not to seek assistance under the proposed legislation.

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (H.R. 4151)

Issue: The administration's budget requests $1.05 billion for this program in 1991. This amount is $343 million less than the 1990 appropriation level. This constitutes a reduction of 30 percent from the 1986 level of $2 billion. The administration suggests that program funds would be reduced because energy prices have stabilized. They further indicate that low-income households are spending smaller portions of their income on heat.

Status: A reauthorization bill, H.R. 4151, was introduced in the House by Rep. Kildee (D-Mich.). The bill requests $2.1 billion for FY91, which is a slight decrease ($150 million) from FY90 appropriations. Rep. Conte (R-Mass.) has introduced a $300 million supplemental bill for FY90.

NACo Policy: Supports a comprehensive energy assistance, weatherization and conservation program with sufficient federal funding.

Community Services Block Grant (H.R. 4151)

Issue: The administration is proposing a complete phase-out of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) in 1991. This would mean a loss of $347 million. The budget would only include $42 million to maintain support for targeted homeless activities authorized by the Stewart B. McKinney legislation. Community Action Agencies' (CAA) administrative costs currently funded under CSBG would be included in the appropriations for the federal programs they partially administer.

Status: Rep. Kildee (D-Mich.) introduced H.R. 4151 which would reauthorize CSBG at the same level as FY90 — $451.5 million. However, this is a substantial amount over what was appropriated in 1990.

NACo Policy: Supports continuation of the community effort including full federal funding for CAA local initiative programs.

Head Start/AFDC Child Care Support (H.R. 4150 and 4151)

Issue: The administration's budget includes a $500 million increase for Head Start, which is the most significant increase in one year since the program began 25 years ago. This would increase the Head Start program to a total of $1.9 billion. It is estimated that this amount would add 180,000 more children to Head Start programs.

A related program, support for child care part of the AFDC program, is also slated for an increase to $489 million, up by $283 million.

These funds will provide up to 12 months of transitional child care for recipients who leave the AFDC rolls due to increased income from employment. However, at a time when increased program participation is planned for the AFDC program, the administration proposes a cut of $33 million in state and local administration.

Status: Rep. Kildee (D-Mich.) introduced H.R. 4151 which would reauthorize the Head Start program for three years at $2.4 billion, an increase of $1 billion from FY90. Hearings were held on his bill and he hopes to go to subcommittee mark up (Human Resources of the Education and Labor Committee) by the end of March. At the same time, Mr. Kildee introduced a full funding bill for Head Start, H.R. 4150, at the $2.7 billion level for all eligible three-, four- and five-year-old children. Other provisions include increased salaries and benefits for staff, training and improved facilities. Senator Dodd (D-Conn.) is planning a similar action in the Senate.

NACo Policy: Supports enhanced federal efforts for early childhood initiatives such as Head Start to assure that needed education, nutritional and social services are available to disadvantaged pre-school children. At the same time, the federal government should not shift any responsibilities to localities without providing financial resources sufficient to carry out such responsibilities.

Foster Care and Adoption Assistance (H.R. 2185, 1785 and 752)

Issue: As with child care support related to AFDC, the president's proposal aims to cut state and county administrative costs of foster care maintenance programs. The budget proposes to limit the increase of federal reimbursements for administrative costs to no more than 10 percent per state per year, beginning in FY91. The Bush administration claims that if left unchecked, state administrative costs are expected to exceed the maintenance payments to foster families by FY92.

County governments are being subjected to extensive administrative mandates in these programs, so decreasing administrative funding works to the detriment of expected service expansions.

Status: The bills are currently in the House Ways and Means Committee. H.R. 2185, introduced by Rep. Matsui (D-Calif.), proposes various improvements in the foster care program. Rep. Stark (D-Calif.), H.R. 752, is considering comprehensive adoption reform. No recent action has taken place on these bills.

NACo Policy: Supports no capping of funds or limit on the number of children who can receive funds.

State Legalization Impact Assistance Grant Program (SLIAG)

Issue: The State Legalization Impa Assistance Grant program (SLIAG) for 199 is maintained at the 1990 amount — $30 million. This program was established reimburse states and local governments for portion of costs incurred in providing publ health, public assistance, education and ou reach to aliens legalized under the Immigr tion Reform and Control Act of 198 (IRCA). At that time, Congress authorize SLIAG for FY88-91, appropriated $1 billio per year for a total of $4 billion, and ga states and local communities seven years spend the funds. Congress recognized, at th time, that the greatest amount of costs wou be incurred in the later years of the progra

Congress reduced the FY90 SLIAG a propriation by $555 million and authorized fifth year of SLIAG funding in FY92, for th repayment to states and local communities the $555 million. However, the president FY91 budget proposal includes a $537 mi lion reduction in SLIAG funding and seeks remove the provision for the FY92 restor tion of FY90 funds.

Status: Senator Graham (D-Fla.) a Rep. Berman (D-Calif.) are both concern about this situation and are leading the effo to fight this proposed cut. Senator Graham working with the Senate Appropriatio Subcommittee on Labor, HHS and Educati to hold a hearing on SLIAG.

NACo Policy: The federal gover ment should reimburse county governme for expenses incurred in providing necessa services to aliens. NACo urges Congress ensure that SLIAG suffers no funding cuts FY91 and that the provision for repayment FY92 of the $555 million reprogrammed FY90, is not removed.

Intergovernmental Relations

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National Voter Registration Legislation

Issue: Bills have been introduced are aimed at encouraging voter registra and participation by creating of national el

See next page

ISSUES UPDATE

tion standards. The bills include a variety of approaches to this problem, including registration in connection with driver's license renewals or changes, mail-in registration and day of election registration for federal elections, providing for agency-based registration, establishing a registration confirmation system to insure accurate voting polls, and establishing registration cut-off dates.

Status: The House approved H.R. 2190 on Feb. 6 by a vote of 286-132. This occurred after the defeat of an amendment that would have, among other things, provided $120 million for funding the bill's provisions. As passed, H.R. 2190, sponsored by Rep. Swift (D-Wash.), provides only $50 million to states and counties for purging voter registration lists. It also allows registration in connection with driver's license renewal or application, by mail or through agencies, and creates guidelines for purging voter registration lists.

A similar bill, S. 874, sponsored by Senator Ford (D-Ky.) has been approved by the Senate Rules Committee and is awaiting full Senate consideration.

NACo Policy: NACo policy opposes federal legislation which would impose mandated voter registration requirements on local governments without reimbursing local government for the costs associated with these mandates.

Uniform Poll Closing Legislation

Issue: Because of the difference in time zones, polls close at different times across the United States. In presidential elections the network shave been making projections on the outcome of the election prior to the closing of the polls in western United States. This may discourage voters in those areas from casting their ballots. The result is that the outcomes of local elections may be affected because people fail to cast a ballot when they already know the outcome of the presidential race.

Status: H.R. 15 passed the House on April 5, 1989 by a vote of 238-154. It provides that polls would close at 9 p.m. EST and extends daylight savings time by two weeks in the Pacific time zone. This means that the polls would close at 9 p.m. in the Eastern time zone, 8 p.m. in the Central time zone and 7 p.m. in the Mountain and Pacific time zones. In the Senate, S. 136 was approved by the Rules Committee and sets a closing time of 10 p.m. for all polls so that polls in all time zones will close at the same time in presidential elections. It is on the Senate calendar.

NACo Policy: NACo policy expresses concern to the news media about the affect of early projections of election results and asks that a commission be appointed to study the issue. NACo takes no position on federal poll closing legislation.

Cable Television

Issue: Many counties that have issued cable franchises are concerned about the lack of accountability on the part of cable operators. The Cable Act of 1984 and subsequent court and FCC decisions have left local governments with little regulatory authority over cable franchises.

Status: A number of bills have been introduced which would change the current cable television environment. Some of the areas these bills address are rate regulation; vertical and horizontal integration; must-carry rules; telephone company entry into cable; and transfers of franchises. Hearings have been held in both the House and Senate on various cable issues. Some legislative action is expected this year.

NACo Policy: NACo has policy on cable in the area of rate regulation, franchise renewal and PEG access. The Intergovernmental Relations Steering Committee will consider a resolution during the Legislative Conference which would revise and expand this policy.

Mandate Reimbursement Legislation

Issue: This legislation is aimed at shifting the cost of federal mandates to the federal government rather than having these costs imposed on local and state governments. It would require the federal government to reimburse state and local governments for all additional direct costs incurred in complying with any new federal rule or regulation. Such a measure would require the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) to submit an annual report detailing total direct costs of federal regulations to state and local governments.

Status: Rep. Barnard (D-Ga.) and Senator Durenberger (R-Minn.) have introduced mandate reimbursement legislation. No action has been schedule on either H.R. 3144 or S.1537.

NACo Policy: NACo policy supports the adoption of legislation which would reimburse county government for the costs associated with complying with federal mandates.

Cost Estimate Act

Issue: The State and Local Cost Estimate Act was extended in the 100th Congress. This legislation requires that the CBO estimate costs (often called "fiscal notes") incurred by state and local governments in carrying out or complying with legislation reported by House and Senate committees where the aggregate annual cost to such governments will be at least $200 million.

This legislation was originally enacted in 1981 with the hope that highlighting the costs of federal mandates might give Congress pause before passing on or requiring such expenditures.

In late 1988, the Government Accounting Office issued a report which included recommendations to strengthen the Cost Estimate Act, including earlier preparation of cost estimates, estimates for major amendments, and estimates for legislation currently exempt from the process, such as tax or appropriations bills.

Status: No legislation has been introduced on this issue.

NACo Policy: NACo supports an expansion of the Cost Estimate Act.

Justice and Public Safety

Staff Contact:
Donald Murray

Omnibus Drug Initiative Act of 1988 (P.L. 100-690)

Issue: The Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 required the director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy to compile and present to the Congress a national strategy for combating substance abuse. That National Drug Control Strategy was transmitted to Congress Sept. 5, 1989 by President Bush.

A second report was issued in late January 1990. Funding for substance abuse programs has grown dramatically from $5.7 billion in 1989 to almost $9 billion in 1990.

For state and local programs in FY90, Congress allocated $450 million for law enforcement, $530 million for drug education and prevention, and $1.2 billion for treatment of drug users through the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Block Grant.

The administration's second national drug-control strategy, released Jan. 25, 1990, calls for a 12 percent increase in federal anti-drug spending for a total of $10.6 billion in FY91. An alternative plan, advanced by Senator Joseph R. Biden, Jr. (D-Del.), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, would provide about $4 billion more, or $14.7 billion in overall spending. The Biden plan proposes significant increases for state and local programs. It also allocates a greater share of the funds for treatment and prevention and places special emphasis on the hard-core drug user.

Thus, while the administration's plan would increase treatment by $155 million, the Biden plan proposes a $2.2 billion increase.

The Biden proposal would also double the state and local law enforcement grants to $900 million — twice the FY90 funding level. It would expand prison capacity by building 10 regional prisons and 12 boot camps on closed military bases. These facilities, costing $850 million, would house federal, state and local offenders.

The administration's overall proposal contains an additional $1.1 billion in FY91 for the war on drugs.

Most of the funds would go to the Pentagon to dramatically expand its role in interdiction efforts, and to the Department of Justice to enlarge the federal prison system and to fund more than 2,000 new federal investigator and prosecutorial positions. The added fund request includes:

- $42 million in new spending for state and local law enforcement — bringing the overall level to $492 million; and
- $155 million in additional funds for treatment, bringing the overall level for the alcohol, drug abuse and mental block grant to $1.29 billion.

The second installment of the National Drug Control Strategy issued by the president also recommends wider use of the death penalty in drug cases, and the creation of a new center to coordinate intelligence gathering on drug trafficking activities.

Critics contend that the proposal is too heavily slanted toward law enforcement and interdiction efforts at the expense of prevention and treatment programs. The proposal maintains the current ratio of federal spending — 70 percent to reduce the supply of drugs and 30 percent for demand reduction.

The second installment of the National Drug Control Strategy designates five areas of the country as "high intensity drug trafficking areas." They include the metropolitan areas of New York, Los Angeles, Miami, Houston and the entire Southwest border. The president's plan authorizes $50 million in these areas to intensify law enforcement and interdiction activities. The report makes clear that both city and county jurisdictions in high intensity areas will receive increased federal attention in the fight against drugs. Under the Biden plan, "Drug Emergency Areas" would share $300 million in federal support for drug law enforcement, prevention and drug treatment efforts.

Status: Congress is expected to make a number of refinements in current law as a result of the president's report to Congress. A number of those refinements are embodied in S. 1970 and S. 1972, which will be considered by the Senate during the week of March 18.

NACo Policy: The major thrust of NACo's policy calls for a comprehensive approach to the drug abuse problem at the grass roots level. This includes full funding for treatment, education, early intervention, and state and local law enforcement activities. NACo favors much greater emphasis on prevention, education and treatment. NACo also supports greater inclusion of alcohol abuse under the legislation and federal incentives for county-city collaboration.

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Amendments of 1988

Issue: The legislation grants funds to state and local governments to support a wide

See next page

ISSUES UPDATE

range of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention efforts, including the deinstitutionalization of status offenders and the removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups. Last year, the program was reauthorized for an additional four-year period. The new measure contains increased flexibility to states that have demonstrated an unequivocal commitment to remove juveniles from adult jails and lockups. The measure also raises the minimum block grant to a rural state by $100,000. The central issue is whether the administration will be successful in attempting to slash the program's already meager budget.

Status: For FY90, the legislation has received an appropriation of $73 million. In the FY91 budget, the administration has requested $15.4 million. On March 1, 1990, confirmation hearings were held for Robert W. Sweet, Jr. Sweet has been nominated to head the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

NACo Policy: NACo has been a strong supporter of the act since its inception and will oppose efforts to eliminate most of the funds for the program.

Lawsuit Reform Act of 1989 (S. 1100)

Issue: The bill would modify or limit tort liability in many areas. It specifically addresses the exposure to local governments and officials under Section 1983 litigation. It would prohibit businesses from filing Section 1983 lawsuits, limit commercial damage suits to human rights issues, protect local governments from liability for unauthorized employee actions or for actions taken in good faith, and prohibit punitive damage awards against counties.

Status: The bill has been introduced by Senator McConnell (R-Ky.) who is seeking additional bipartisan support. Sen. McConnell plans to attach his bill as an amendment to other legislation on the Senate floor. There is no corresponding legislation on the House side. If the bill passes the Senate, it would most likely be referred to the House Judiciary Committee where action is uncertain.

NACo Policy: NACo strongly supports the local government protections contained in the bill. NACo has also endorsed its other tort reform provisions, including limitations on product liability.

Anti-Drug Assault Weapons Limitations Act (S. 747)

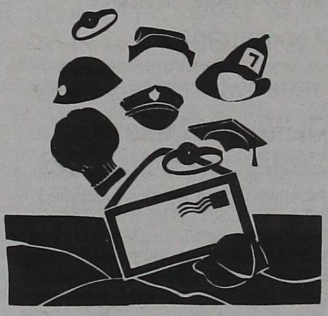
Issue: The bill, sponsored by Senator DeConcini (D-Ariz.), bans manufacture, importation and sale of new semi-automatic assault weapons. It covers 14 specific weapons and includes a mandatory 10-year additional penalty for the use of such weapons in a crime. It is a more modest proposal than S. 386, which NACo endorsed at its 1989 Annual Conference. S. 747 covers many of the domestic assault weapons not covered under President Bush's ban on imports. Seventy-five percent of assault weapons are manufactured in the United States.

Status: S. 747 has been reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee instead of S. 386. It is now part of the Biden crime package which is scheduled for floor action during the week of March 20.

In the House, the closest companion is H.R. 1190, introduced by Representative Pete Stark (D-Calif.). H.R. 1190, with 90 cosponsors, includes objective criteria for determining assault weapons. The criteria in the bill are similar to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms' criteria that were used in deciding which weapons to ban from importation status. The Stark bill has been referred to the House Subcommittee on Crime.

NACo Policy: NACo supports policy to ban the domestic manufacture, importation and sale of semi-automatic assault weapons. NACo policy supports Senate bill 386 or "similar legislation." NACo's position is the same as the National Sheriffs' Association.

Labor and Employee Benefits



Staff Contact: Larry Jones

Civil Rights Act of 1990 (H.R. 4000 and S.1204)

Issue: This bill would overturn or modify several recent Supreme Court rulings in employment anti-discrimination cases. The bills aim to strengthen the legal remedies available to women and minorities to fight job discrimination cases.

Legislation would amend Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of color, religion, sex or national origin in hiring, promoting and dismissing employees; and Section 1981, which bars intentional discrimination in making and enforcing contracts.

The effects of the Supreme Court's rulings have significantly restricted the application of these laws and made it more difficult for women and minorities to prove discrimination.

Further, these rulings have opened the door to endless law suits for county employers under court approved affirmative action plans. In *Martin v. Wilks*, the Supreme Court ruled that a court-approved affirmative action plan may be later challenged by adversely affected employees who were not a party to the agreement.

Rep. Goodling (R-Pa.) has introduced an alternative proposal on behalf of the administration. The administration's bill (H.R. 4081) would overturn or modify two of the Supreme Court's rulings: 1) to make it clear that discrimination is prohibited in the terms and conditions of contracts as well as in the making and enforcing of that contract; and 2) to clarify that the clock on a six-month statute of limitation for challenging discrimination in seniority plans begins to run after a person suffers discrimination, not after the plan is adopted.

H.R. 4000 would permit challenges of seniority plans up to two years after discrimination occurs. It would also shift the burden of proof to employers to show that an employment practice, which disproportionately excludes women and minorities, serves a legitimate business purpose.

Status: Hearings are expected to be completed in March by the House Education and Labor Committee and the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee. Although H.R. 4000 and S.1204 are supported by a bipartisan group in both houses of Congress, the administration and Republican leadership oppose the bill, claiming it would expand the civil rights laws instead of restoring them. The Democratic leadership has put the bill on a fast track and would like to complete legislation as soon as possible.

NACo Policy: While NACo has not taken a position on the bill, current policy supports the broad application and enforcement of the civil rights laws. The Labor and Employee Benefits Steering Committee will consider adopting a resolution on the bill on March 17.

FDIC Regs Limiting Insurance Coverage on Deferred Comp Deposits

Issue: On Dec. 22, 1989 the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) published proposed regulations stating its intention to eliminate pass-through insurance for participants in Section 457 deferred compensation plans with deposits at savings and loan institutions.

Under the current rules each plan participant is covered up to $100,000 on deposits made on his/her behalf. The proposed regulations would change insurance coverage to $100,000 on the aggregate of all participants in a Section 457 plan with deposits at savings and loan institutions. This abrupt change in policy would expose many counties to enormous financial liability.

Status: The comment period on the proposed regulations has been extended to March 23. The FDIC will be holding hearings on the proposed regulations in Washington on March 14. No final action will be taken until after April 16.

NACo Policy: While NACo does not have a position on the proposed regulation, it is clear that any abrupt change in policy would adversely affect many counties with Section 457 deposits in savings and loan institutions. The Labor and Employee Benefits Steering Committee will consider adopting a resolution at its March 17 meeting.

Family and Medical Leave Act of 1989 (S. 34 and H.R. 770)

Issue: The Senate bill would require employers to provide up to 10 weeks of unpaid leave to their employees in the event of the birth or adoption of a child, or to care for a seriously ill child or dependent parent and up to 13 weeks of leave for employees who become seriously ill.

Employers would be required to continue health benefits for employees on leave and guarantee them the same or similar job upon return. Workers would be qualified for unpaid leave after one year of employment and at least 900 hours of service within a 12-month period. Employers with less than 20 employees would be exempted.

By contrast, the House bill would provide 10 weeks of parental leave and 15 weeks of medical leave. Employers with fewer than 50 employees would be exempted.

Status: The House and Senate bills have been approved by all appropriate committees and await floor action.

NACo Policy: Urges counties to adopt their own parental and medical leave policies. Opposes unfunded federal mandates on state and local employee benefits.

Extension of Medicare and Social Security Coverage to State and Local Employees

Issue: The administration's budget request for 1991 would extend the Social Security tax to part-time and temporary employees at the state and local level, and expand the Medicare payroll tax to all state and local employees.

Under current law the total Social Security tax rate on the payroll of employees is 7.65 percent each on the employee and the employer, of which 6.20 percent is for Old Age Survival and Disability Insurance (OASDI) and 1.45 percent is for Medicare or Hospital Insurance (HI).

While most state and local employees are covered under both programs, many are not. The financial impact on state and local governments with uncovered employees would be significant in many cases.

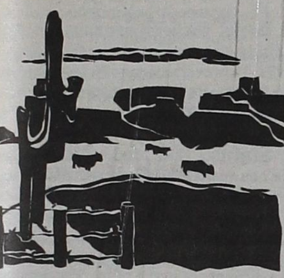
Status: Hearings were held by the House Ways and Means Committee on March 8. No further action has been scheduled.

NACo Policy: Opposes expansion of the Social Security and Medicare payroll taxes.

See next page

ISSUES UPDATE

Public Lands



Staff Contact: Rick Keister

Natural Resource Payments

Issue: The Bush administration, after many meetings, correspondence, and pressure from county and school board officials has finally decided not to attempt to propose any changes in natural resource payments formulas. For the first time in more than five years, an administration budget does not contain some form of "gross to net" proposal. The Office of Management and Budget has finally backed off of the concept in the face of county and congressional opposition.

Status: When making visits to senators and representatives during NACo's Legislative Conference, please give credit and praise for whatever assistance they provided in convincing the Bush Administration to support our position.

NACo Policy: NACo strongly opposes any attempt to change the distribution formula for natural resource payment programs and will vigorously fight any attempts to cut the shared revenue receipts through legislative or any other means.

Below-Cost Timber Sales

Issue: In a number of individual timber sales that have occurred on National Forests, the proceeds from the sales do not cover the costs of conducting the sale incurred by the U.S. Forest Service. The issue of these "below-cost sales" has become increasingly controversial on Capitol Hill as Congress struggles with the huge federal budget deficit. It has also pitted environmental interests against the forest products industry in an accounting battle to determine exactly what a below-cost sale really is. The environmental community clearly sees this issue as an opportunity to reduce the amount of timber cut on roads built on public lands. For the Forest Service, the issue is one of how to better manage the timber sales program to continue to make it profitable and meet the demand for wood products.

Status: The U.S. Forest Service has proposed in this year's FY91 budget to conduct a below cost commercial timber sale pilot test on 12 selected national forests. The areas selected are in Montana, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Georgia, Ohio, Tennessee and Virginia. Below-cost sales in the test areas would be prohibited and the impacts on community economic stability of not allowing the sales would be monitored.

Additional money would be allocated to increase the recreation budgets for those forests and a system of user fees would be instituted to make up for lost receipts to the counties and schools. Whether or not the Forest Service is permitted to go ahead with this proposed test will be decided by the appropriations committees in the House and Senate. Several hearings have been held by the House Forest and Family Farms Subcommittee of House Agriculture.

NACo Policy: The community stability of counties in areas where below-cost sales occur is the overriding consideration. The Code of Federal Regulations — 36 CFR 2 21.3(a)(3) — states that the Forest Service must "so far as feasible, facilitate an even flow of timber in order to facilitate the stabilization of communities and opportunities for employment."

In any pilot test, counties must be insured that community stability will not be threatened and that receipts to school and road budgets be maintained. Any pilot test must be monitored for from three to five years to insure accurate and reliable data on which to base any future policy decision on below-cost sales.

Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILT) (H.R. 519)

Issue: PILT reimburses counties with federal land holdings by the Department of Interior and the Department of Agriculture on a per capita formula basis. This in-lieu-of-taxes program enables counties with large holdings of federally tax-exempt lands to provide services required by the activities generated by those lands. This bill would enact a mechanism to provide for yearly increases to the PILT formulas by both to indexing for inflation. It would apply both to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) PILT program and to the Fish and Wildlife's Refuge Revenue Sharing Program. The bill, while it raises the cap on appropriations on a yearly basis, does not make PILT an entitlement program. It would still be subject to the yearly appropriations process.

Status: The bill was introduced by Rep. Dorgan (D-N.D.) and was referred to the House Interior Committee and the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee which has jurisdiction over wildlife refuges. Hearings have not yet been scheduled nor is action expected anytime soon.

NACo Policy: Strongly supports the concept of an entitlement program for PILT but has not taken an official position on the indexing approach. The sense of the Public Lands Steering Committee adopted at NACo's Legislative Conference was to not push for an amendment to PILT because of the potential for opening up the program to other adverse amendments.

The Committee instead indicated its strong support to push for full funding for the wildlife refuge revenue sharing program which has not received full entitlement in recent years.

State Fish and Wildlife Assistance Acts (H.R. 544)

Issue: Rep. Rahall, II (D-W.Va.) has introduced a bill, similar to last year's H.R. 4181, that would change the distribution formulas for onshore mineral leasing receipts and channel the revenues to designated state conservation programs. H.R. 544 would derive revenues from mineral leasing fees on acquired federal lands. Unfortunately, lands under the National Grasslands program fall under this category. The bill would cut in half direct payments to counties which receive receipts from the National Grasslands program administered by the U.S. Forest Service. Counties in 24 states would have their receipt payments reduced by 50 percent (more than $5 million) under the funding arrangements in this bill. The most affected states are North Dakota and Kansas.

Status: Last year's bill was reported out of the House Interior Committee , but never received a hearing in the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee which had joint jurisdiction.

This year H.R. 544 has been referred to both committees, but hearings have not been scheduled. NACo has contacted bill cosponsor Rep. Craig (R-Idaho) about its impact, and he indicated that he would address NACo concerns. Hearings or action on the bill have not been scheduled.

NACo Policy: NACo opposes any legislation which reduces natural resource payments derived from public lands to counties.

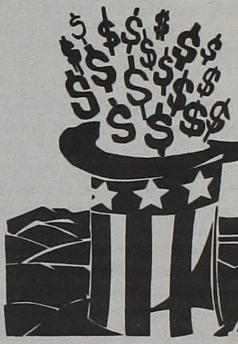
California Desert Protection Act of 1989 (S. 11 and H.R. 780)

Issue: This bill, introduced by Senator Cranston (D-Calif.), would designate within the California Desert an additional 11 million acres in new national parks and wilderness areas. The California Desert Conservation Area is already protected by a plan created by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) with extensive public involvement. That plan provides for protection of critical environmental areas and also allows multiple uses in strictly managed areas. This new legislation would withdraw many areas of the desert from multiple use and have a severe economic impact on its residents. A bill was introduced in the House by Rep. Levine (D-Calif.) and it was referred to the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

Status: The House Interior Subcommittee on Public Lands has held one hearing in Washington, D.C. and has held field hearings in California. The Senate Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands has also completed hearings. There is no mark up scheduled in the full committees in either the House or Senate at this time.

NACo Policy: NACo opposes the Cranston legislation and reaffirms its support to multiple use management of the California Desert Conservation Area by the BLM.

Taxation and Finance



Staff Contact:
Susan J. White

Tax-Exempt Bonds (S. 355 and H.R. 2207)

Issue: Although tax-exempt bonds were substantially curtailed as part of the 1986 Tax Reform Act, no further restrictions were authorized last year, and some positive legislative steps were taken to ease some of the burdens on state and local governments' ability to issue bonds.

Specifically, Congress loosened the arbitrage requirements, included a provision that allows corporations to take a credit against a previous year's tax (alternative minimum tax) paid on tax-exempt bond interest, and extended, for nine months, the Mortgage Revenue and Industrial Development Bond programs, through Sept. 30, 1990.

The new arbitrage provision exempts issuers financing construction projects from arbitrage rebate requirements if they spend most of their tax-exempt bond proceeds within two years. Issuers have to spend 10 percent of the proceeds within six months after issuance, 45 percent within a year, 75 percent within 18 months, 95 percent within two years and the rest in three years.

Earlier in the session, Rep. Donnelly (D-Mass.) introduced H.R. 2207, a bill to require non-profit, tax-exempt hospitals to provide care to the poor in return for issuing tax-exempt bonds. The House Committee on Ways and Means held hearings last fall, but the bill was not included in final tax legislation.

Status: The president's FY91 budget proposal does not include the continuation of the Mortgage Revenue or the Small-Issue Industrial Development Bond programs. There are not, however, any proposals to further restrict other tax-exempt bonds. The administration has proposed a family savings plan that could compete with tax-exempt bonds as it offers a higher interest rate and safer credit rating than bonds, and that measure is part of an overall approach to stimulate savings and investment, which Congress will most probably address as part of tax and budget legislation this year.

Thus far, the only legislation that has been

See next page

ISSUES UPDATE

introduced in Congress this year affecting bonds is a bill — S.355 — to make all tax credits permanent, including the Mortgage Revenue and Small Issue Industrial Development Bond programs. Rep. Donnelly plans to continue work on H.R. 2207 later in the session and will be introducing some NACo-supported modifications to the bill.

NACo Policy: NACo supports extension of the Mortgage Revenue and Small-Issue Industrial Development Bond programs. NACo supports efforts to overturn the arbitrage rebate requirement; to remove tax-exempt interest from the calculation of the alternative minimum tax; to restore the bank deduction for the cost of carrying tax-exempt debt, or an increase in the small issuer exemption from $10 million to $25 million. NACo also strongly supports H.R. 2207, that would require non-profit hospitals to treat their fair share of indigent patients in return for issuing tax-exempt bonds.

Taxation of State and Local Interstate Sales (Bellas-Hess) (H.R. 2203 and S. 480)

Issue: The 1967 national Bellas-Hess Supreme Court decision prohibits state and local governments from taxing interstate sales. As interstate mail order sales have become increasingly sophisticated, sales have soared and it is estimated that state and local governments are losing approximately $2 billion annually because they are unable to collect the taxes owed. It is projected that these numbers will increase since mail order sales are on the rise. Also direct marketers currently enjoy an unfair competitive advantage over main street merchants, who already collect state and local sales taxes.

Federal legislation would overturn the court's earlier decision and allow states to collect interstate taxes on mail order sales. Earlier bills only allowed local governments to collect their sales taxes in states with uniform local rates. This would eliminate local governments in all but two states from collecting taxes owed. As a result, NACo and the other state/local public interest groups worked out an agreement that would allow all counties and other local governments to collect sales taxes on interstate sales. The agreement requires states to pass an "in-lieu" tax or single blended state rate to include the majority of local taxes.

Status: Last year, Rep. Brooks, (D-Texas), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, reintroduced H.R. 2230 to overturn the Supreme Court decision. However, the bill does not contain the state/local agreement worked out by NACo and the other state and local public interest groups. H.R. 2230 only authorized the states to establish an "elective fee" if they so choose.

Since introduction of the bill, no hearing or mark-up has been scheduled by the Chairman.

On the Senate side, Senator Cochran (R-Miss.) introduced S. 480 which does not contain the state/local agreement. The bill simply allows states to collect interstate taxes, and allows for collection of local taxes where they have uniform rates across a state. In discussions with his staff, however, they have indicated some interest in amending the bill with the agreement.

NACo Policy: NACo supports legislation to overturn the Bellas-Hess decision. NACo policy calls for federal legislation to provide for the collection of local as well as state taxes.

Transportation

Staff Contact:
Robert J. Fogel

Federal Surface Transportation Program

Issue: The authorization for the federal-aid highway program and the federal mass transportation program expire Sept. 30, 1991. This coincides with the planned completion of the interstate highway system. Some organizations and members of Congress view this as an opportunity to change the focus of the federal highway and mass transit program and/or reprogram how the funds can be spent.

Status: While no major legislation has been introduced in this issue, Congress has already begun to hold hearings. NACo has testified and additional hearings are expected this year on both the highway and mass transit programs.

NACo Policy: NACo's Transportation Steering Committee has developed a statement on the future of the federal surface transportation program and a resolution for consideration by the NACo Board of Directors. This resolution focuses on the need for greater participation by local government in the allocation of federal highway funds; an enhanced rural highway program; the continuation and expansion of a separate bridge program; a component to address suburban mobility/congestion; and a better funded mass transit program. In addition, NACo has participated in the Transportation Alternatives Group (TAG), a coalition of 12 national public and private interest groups with a concern for surface transportation.

TAG recently published its consensus on 16 key aspects of the future federal surface transportation program.

Federal Gasoline Tax

Issue: In order to reduce the federal budget deficit, some members of Congress have proposed that the federal gasoline tax be raised with the proceeds being used for deficit reduction purposes. It is estimated that for each one-cent increase, approximately $1.1 billion would be generated.

Status: As Congress tries to solve the deficit and budget problems in 1990, there have been several new proposals to increase the gas tax with the proceeds going to deficit resolution reduction or deficit reduction and infrastructure improvement. Last year Rep. Andersen (D-Calif.) introduced H. Res. 41 expressing the sense of the House that the federal gasoline tax not be increased to reduce the federal deficit. H. Res. 41 has over a majority of House members as co-sponsors. A similar resolution, S. Res. 63, was introduced in the Senate by Senator Symms (R-Ida.). It was adopted by a voice vote as an amendment to the budget resolution in 1989.

NACo Policy: NACo policy opposes an increase in the federal gasoline tax for deficit reduction purposes or for purposes other than transportation.

FY91 Transportation Budget Appropriations

Issue: The administration has presented its budget which funds the federal-aid highway program, mass transit program, airport improvement program, Amtrak and other programs of importance to counties. The administration's budget called for sharp reductions in mass transit, elimination of the Amtrak subsidy and reductions in highway spending. The airport improvement program funding is proposed at its current level.

Status: The Congressional Budget and Appropriations Committees are beginning to consider funding levels for transportation programs.

NACo Policy: NACo opposes any cuts in funding for transportation programs and urges at least funding at current levels adjusted for inflation. NACo continues to be concerned about the large unspent surpluses accumulating in the highway and airport trust funds. A priority for NACo and other state/local groups is increasing the funding of the highway program to $15 billion.

Amtrak Reauthorization

Issue: Authority to continue the federal subsidy for Amtrak expired on Sept. 30, 1988. However, an appropriation for Amtrak for FY90 was passed which allows Amtrak service to continue without any cutbacks.

Status: H.R. 2364, extending Amtrak for one year, was approved by the House by a vote of 296-93 on Sept. 25, 1989. On Nov. 21, 1989, the Senate approved its version of this legislation by a voice vote. A conference committee will be meeting to try to work out the differences in the bills. The administration opposes this legislation.

NACo Policy: NACo policy supports the continuation of a federal role in long distance passenger service and a continuation of federal rail subsidies to Amtrak.

Local Rail Service Assistance Reauthorization

Issue: The Local Rail Assistance program was established in 1973 and is designed to provide federal financial support to states and localities for the continuation of rail freight service which might otherwise be lost due to abandonments. Theprogram expired on September 30, 1988.

Status: Legislation was passed in both the House and Senate last year extending Local Rail Assistance. In December 1989 the president signed P.L. 101-213.

NACo Policy: NACo policy urges that the Local Rail Assistance program be retained to assist those state and local governments which require funds to sustain needed freight service.

Federal Aviation and Airport Program

Issue: The authorization for the eig

See next page

FY91 Transportation Budget
(House-Senate Conference)
($ in millions)

	FY91	FY90
Federal-Aid Highway	$12,013	$12,260
Amtrak	0	605
Mass Transit Total	2,300	3,048
Formula (Sec. 9)	1,146	1,695
Operating	298	802
Capital	779	822
Section 18	65	65
Section 3	1,070	1,066
Airport Improvement Program	1,500	1,500
Essential Air Service	24	31
Local Rail Assistance	0	7

ISSUES UPDATE

ent ticket tax which funds the airport rovement program (AIP) expires on Sept. 1990.

n addition to considering the extension of tax, some in Congress would like to ertake a revision of the entire federal tion and airport program.

One of the key issues is whether to repeal federal prohibition on local governments irport authorities levying their own tax assengers. These taxes were known as enger facility charges (PFCs).

Status: There have been several pre-nary hearings in the House on this issue, no action has been scheduled.

NACo Policy: NACo supports contin-funding for the AIP program which funds bstantial portion of new projects at ty airports. There is no policy on the al of the federal tax prohibition.

Hazardous Material Transportation

Issue: The last authorization for the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act expired in 1986. The act governs oversight by various federal agencies of the estimated four billion tons of hazardous materials transported across the country each year.

Status: The House Energy and Commerce Committee approved H.R. 3520 by a 11-0 vote on Jan. 31. This bill was introduced by Rep. Luken (D-Ohio),chair of the subcommittee and preempts much of the state and local authority in this area, including designation of transportation routing for hazardous materials.

There are no funds in this bill to finance the training and equipping of local emergency response personnel. Another version of this legislation has been introduced and will be taken up by the House Environment and Public Works Committee. Nothing is scheduled in the Senate.

NACo Policy: NACo has no policy on this issue. However, in general, NACo opposes federal preemption and funding mandates.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Issue: Groups representing the disabled have been urging Congress tto pass legislation guaranteeing the rights of handicapped individuals.

One of the major areas of concern has been access to public transportation. The provisions of this legislation would impose new costs on local transit systems.

Status: The Senate passed S. 933 by a vote of 76-8 on Sept. 7, 1989. This legisltion, named the Americans with Disabilities Act, will require that all new buses and rail cars purchased by public transit systems be accessible to the handicapped. This includes remanufactured vehicles.

In communities with fixed route systems, there must also be a paratransit system to the extent that such service does not impose an undue financial burden.

Subway and other transit stations would have to be made accessible within 20 years. The House Surface Transportaion Subcommittee passed its legislative version of this, H.R. 2273, on March 6, 1990. No date has been set for full committee consideration.

NACo Policy: NACo has no position on this legislation. However, NACo is concerned about any new federal mandate which will impose costs on county government.

nalysis of Bush budget shows some gain

By Kathy Gramp
budget analyst

n Jan. 29, President Bush sent Congress blueprint for the $1.4 trillion federal et for FY91. To meet the challenge d by the $64 billion deficit target in the m-Rudman-Hollings law, the administion suggests raising $21.7 billion in new ues through a mix of taxes, user fees and sales. On the spending side, cuts would made in certain entitlement, mandatory defense programs (totalling $15.4 billion pared to the base case). Funding for etionary programs would increase ly (up $1 billion).

n balance, President Bush's FY91 et would raise funding for county-re- programs by 3.8 percent compared to 0, just short of what would be needed to pace with inflation. Within this total, ver, county-related "discretionary" ams would suffer a 3.5 percent loss (7.5 nt after adjusting for inflation). The net is the result of a proposed 9.6 percent ase for county-related "mandatory," ams (or five percent in constant dol-).

ACo has compiled budget statistics on ograms that directly or indirectly in- county governments. This analysis s that 13 of the county-related programs ounted as "mandatory" including Medi- Aid to Families with Dependent Chil- and Food Stamps. The discretionary ory covers a gamut of programs affect- ll aspects of county services.

e table on page 15 highlights the fund- nds for these programs, by budget cate- for FY80 - FY89-91.

andatory programs dominate the fund- rofile. They account for close to 60 nt of the $137.3 billion proposed for y-related programs in FY91, compared percent in FY80. Two factors affected hift. Spending on county-related man- y programs more than doubled during ecade (rising 36.1 percent in constant s). At the same time, funding for the etionary programs fell by 25 percent percent in constant dollars).

For counties, discretionary programs would continue their downward trend under the president's FY91 budget. Housing credit and regional development would be hardest hit, falling 37.1 percent and 33.1 percent from current levels, respectively. Other areas slated for cutbacks include wastewater treatment (down 17.9 percent), certain income security programs (down 15.9 percent), land management (down 11.3 percent), ground transportation (down 10.1 percent), justice assistance (down 7.3 percent), community development (down 5.5 percent), and training and employment (down 1.9 percent).

Some of the county-related discretionary programs would fare better, however. Social services would gain nearly 16 percent, air transportation, 8.4 percent, and health, five percent. Increasing funding for housing, education and food programs by roughly three percent would fall short of what the programs need to keep pace with inflation.

Within the mandatory category, the budgets for county-related health and social services would go up by 11.6 percent and 11 percent, respectively. Funding for food and other income security programs would stay ahead of inflation, with increases of 5.5 percent and 7.4 percent each. The less than one percent gain in general purpose fiscal assistance (forest/wildlife payments) would translate into a 3.5 percent loss after inflation.

Congressional Impasse

Thus far, Congress has not acted on these proposals. No bipartisan summit is in the offing. Budget committee mark ups on the budget resolution, which theoretically must be passed by April 15, have not yet been scheduled.

This impasse may linger until Congress agrees on the defense budget. As always, defense is the biggest piece of the spending equation, accounting for roughly 60 percent of the government's controllable outlays. Committees cannot allocate money to domestic discretionary programs until they know how much will be absorbed by defense.

Deliberations on the defense budget are likely to be slow and contentious. All aspects of the defense budget are under scrutiny, as lawmakers reassess the nation's military and economic strategies. The prospect of a "peace dividend" has raised hopes for painless solutions to the country's chronic budget deficit.

Just how big this dividend will be remains to be seen. According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), a two percent real decline in the defense budget would reduce outlays by $4 billion in FY91, relative to an inflation adjusted base case. By FY95, the "savings" would increase to $35 billion. Similarly, a four percent real decline would yield roughly twice the savings ($8 billion in FY91, increasing to $68 billion by FY95, compared to an inflation-adjusted baseline).

For his part, President Bush proposed a two percent real decrease in spending for defense. His is the first presidential budget since the end of the Vietnam war that does not keep pace with inflation.

At these levels, the peace dividend would make a small dent in the projected FY91 deficit. Using comparatively optimistic assumptions about the economy and interest rates, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) believes the deficit would be $101 billion under current policies. The Congressional Budget Office expects the deficit to hover between $130 billion and $140 billion for the next few years, hitting $138 billion in FY91.

By law, however, the projected deficit must fall below $74 billion to avoid a sequester for the coming year (the $64 billion target, plus a $10 billion cushion). Even if Congress adopts OMB's assumptions, the lawmakers must find a way to erase $27 billion of the red ink. One alternative to cutting spending is to add revenues. Thus far, however, policymakers have shown more interest in cutting taxes (e.g. capital gains and/or social security), especially since this is an election year.

County leaders meeting to focus on drug crisis

Information on the drug abuse problem, inspiration to confront it and ideas on effective ways to deal with it will be the focus of a conference in Chicago (Cook County) Ill., May 29-31, especially designed for county officials.

The meeting, at the Congress Hotel, will feature several guest speakers and working groups and will highlight exemplary county programs devoted to prevention, treatment and law enforcement.

The National Center for County Health Policy (NCCHP) will also conduct a special county needs assessment to identify what county officials need to effectively cope with this enormous social problem.

For more information, call NCCHP at NACo, 202/393-6226.

ISSUES UPDATE

Funding Trends for County–Related Programs by Budget Function

(Budget Authority/Obligations By FY, in millions of dollars)

	Actual 1980	Actual 1989	Est. 1990	Budget 1991	Percent Change			
					FY90-91		Ten-Year Trend (1980-90)	
					Current Dollars	Constant Dollars	Current Dollars	Constant Dollars
Discretionary	77,440	53,523	57,969	55,917	-3.5%	-7.5%	-25.1%	-51.8%
Mandatory	35,140	66,593	74,272	81,371	9.6%	5.0%	111.4%	36.1%
Total	112,581	120,116	132,241	137,289	3.8%	-0.5%	17.5%	-24.3%
Discretionary								
Conservation/ Land Mgt.	389	202	250	222	-11.3%	-15.0%	-35.6%	-58.5%
Pollution Control	3,400	1,950	1,948	1,600	-17.9%	-21.3%	-42.7%	-63.1%
Farm Income	2	0	1	0	-100.0%	-100.0%	-66.7%	-78.5%
Mortgage Credit	1,687	949	985	619	-37.1%	-39.8%	-41.6%	62.4%
Ground Transp.	12,871	17,558	18,436	16,578	-10.1%	-13.8%	43.2%	-7.7%
Air Transportation	773	1,632	1,682	1,824	8.4%	3.9%	117.6%	40.2%
Community Dev.	4,584	2,944	3,146	2,973	-5.5%	-9.4%	-31.4%	-55.8%
Area/Reg. Dev.	2,307	648	919	616	-33.0%	-35.8%	-60.2%	-74.4%
Education	4,220	5,341	6,032	6,241	3.5%	-0.8%	42.9%	-7.9%
Training & Employ.	6,493	3,783	3,929	3,853	-1.9%	-6.0%	-39.5%	-61.0%
Social Services	1,935	2,693	3,047	3,530	15.9%	11.1%	57.4%	1.4%
Health Care Srvs.	1,409	2,863	3,560	3,760	5.6%	1.2%	152.7%	62.8%
Housing Assistance	27,457	8,821	9,366	9,731	3.9%	-0.4%	-65.9%	-78.0%
Food & Nutrition	758	2,043	2,256	2,340	3.7%	-0.6%	197.7%	91.7%
Other Income Security	2,127	1,766	1,762	1,419	-19.5%	-22.8%	-17.2%	-46.7%
Justice Assistance	64	226	547	507	-7.3%	-11.1%	758.1%	452.7%
Gen. Fiscal	6,963	105	105	105	0,0%	-4.1%	-98.5%	-99.0%
Mandatory								
Social Services	3,610	6,549	5,918	6,567	11.0%	6.4%	64.0%	5.6%
Health Care Services	14,550	34,858	40,230	44,902	11.6%	7.0%	176.5%	78.1%
Food & Nutrition	9,083	12,681	14,567	15,364	5.5%	1.1%	60.4%	3.3%
Other Income Security	7,611	12,124	13,182	14,160	7.4%	3.0%	73.2%	11.5%
Gen. Fiscal Assis.	286	381	376	378	0.7%	-3.5%	31.4%	-15.4%

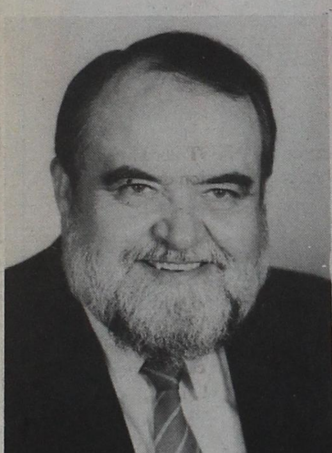
e FY90 and 91 estimates do not include the budget authority being added for the rtment of Housing and Urban Development's renewal of expiring Section 8 contracts billion in FY90, and $7.7 billion in FY91). These are periodic infusions of budget rity that distort the overall trend in funding for housing assistance.

ACo data differs from OMB's tally of grants-in-aid. The NACo list is shorter than OMB's because many grants have little bearing on counties. In addition, OMB only counts the portion of the program that goes to state or local governments, while NACo's analysis counts all of the funding for programs of interest to counties (e.g. the NACo figures include funding for food stamp and housing assistance benefits, not just the amounts for state or local administration). Loan obligations are also counted in the NACo data base.

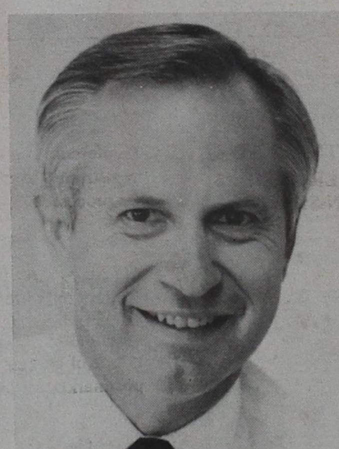
From inside the White House and inside Capitol Hill.

The people who know. Don't miss them.

1990 Legislative Conference Speaker Schedule

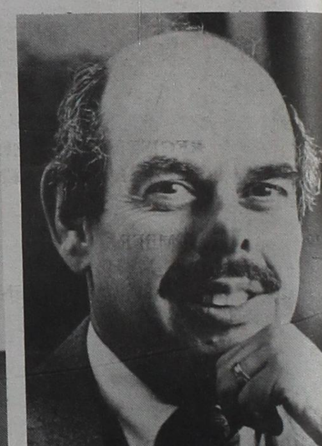


Frank Francois
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
Sunday – General Session
5:15 p.m.

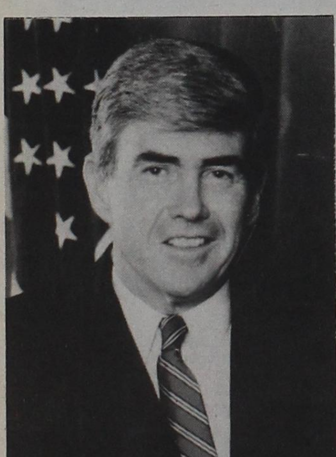


Glenn English (D-Okla.)
U.S. House of Representatives
Sunday – General Session
5:15 p.m.

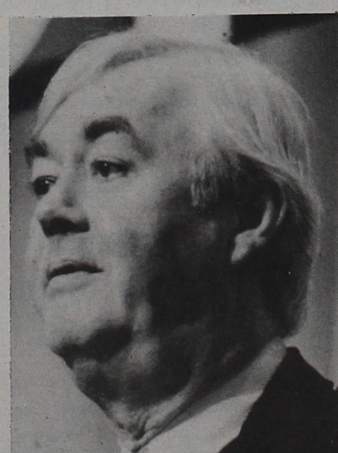
Elizabeth Dole
U.S. Secretary of Labor
Monday – General Session
9 a.m.



Henry A. Waxman (D-Calif.)
U.S. House of Representatives
Monday – General Session
9 a.m.

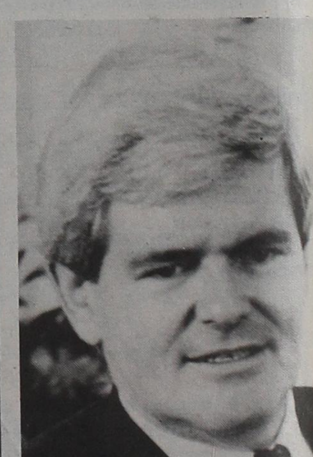


Jack Kemp
U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
Monday – Luncheon Session
Noon



Daniel P. Moynihan (D-N.Y.)
U.S. Senate
Monday – Luncheon Session
Noon

Manuel Lujan
U.S. Secretary of the Interior
Tuesday– Luncheon Session
Noon



Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.)
U.S. House of Representatives
Tuesday– Luncheon Session
Noon

NACo WESTERN INTERSTATE REGION CONFERENCE

MAY 9 - 12, 1990
CAPTAIN COOK HOTEL
Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION - POSTMARK DEADLINE - APRIL 18, 1990

Return completed form with payment by April 18 to NACo, 440 First Street, NW, 8th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20001

NAME ______________________________

NICKNAME ______________________________

TITLE ______________________________

COUNTY ______________________________

ADDRESS ______________________________

CITY ______________ STATE ______________ ZIP CODE ______________

TELEPHONE ______________________________

Are you attending the WIR Conference for the first time? YES_____ NO_____

To register your spouse or youth, please complete the following:

Spouse Name ______________________________

Youth Name ______________________________

REGISTRATION FEES FOR THE WIR CONFERENCE	POSTMARKED BEFORE APRIL 18	POSTMARKED AFTER APRIL 18 & ON-SITE
MEMBER	$195	$225
NON-MEMBER	225	275
OTHER GOVT. ATTENDEE	225	275
PRIVATE SECTOR	250	300
SPOUSE	50	50
YOUTH	30	30

Conference registration fee MUST accompany this registration form before registration or housing can be processed.

CANCELLATION POLICY
Refund of conference registration fee, less an administrative fee of $50, will be made if written notice of conference registration cancellation is postmarked no later than April 11, 1990.

HOTEL RESERVATION

ROOM OCCUPANT ______________________ COUNTY ______________

CO-OCCUPANT ______________________ COUNTY ______________

ADDRESS ______________________ CITY ______________

STATE/ZIP CODE ______________________________

SPECIAL HOUSING REQUESTS ______________________________

HOUSING DISABILITY NEEDS ______________________________

ACCOMMODATIONS: ____ SINGLE..... $74 ____ DOUBLE.....$84 SUITES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

ARRIVAL DATE ______________ DEPARTURE DATE ______________

Hotel check-in time is 1 p.m. All reservation requests must be accompanied by check or credit card number for one night's deposit. Please add 8% state tax to total. This deposit will guarantee your reservation for late arrival. NACo is authorized to use my credit card for this guarantee. I understand that I will be billed for one night's room charge unless I have cancelled my reservation with the hotel by 6:00 p.m. All reservations received after April 18 will be confirmed subject to availability.

AMOUNT ENCLOSED $ __________ CREDIT CARD COMPANY ______________ CARD # ______________

SIGNATURE ______________________________

Job training report

Klinger announces National JTPA Alumni Week

By Neil E. Bomberg
research associate

In a letter to county elected officials directly involved in their local job training programs, Ann Klinger, NACo president, announced the establishment of "National JTPA Alumni Week." JTPA — the Job Training Partnership Act — is the nation's federally-funded, locally-based job training program for economically disadvantaged people. Scheduled for Aug. 27 through Sept. 3, 1990, the week has been set aside to honor the participants and volunteers who have contributed to the success of their local job training programs.

Clyde McQueen, president of the National Association of County Training and Employment Professionals (NACTEP), NACo's professional affiliate for job training administrators and Barbara Shaw, chair of the National Association of Private Industry Councils (NAPIC), urged their fellow administrators and Private Industry Council (PIC) chairs to take an active role in their local National JTPA Alumni Week activities.

First proposed by NACTEP President McQueen, "National JTPA Alumni Week" was developed in response to a perceived lack of identity for local, state and national Job Training Partnership Act activities.

Writing to his colleagues, McQueen stated: "While we know that JTPA data demonstrate how well we help our participants through job training and placement assistance, nothing can tell our story as well as our participants. National statistics can never tell real story of how our alumni, entered our training without without income and without h were able to improve their s increase their self-confidence become economically sufficient."

National JTPA Alumni We a nationwide effort develope NACo that will involve many national, state and l organizations. Local job tra programs will sponsor events forums which will bring tog JTPA participants and alumni will share their successes local, state and national ele officials, PIC members and press.

To kick off National J Alumni Week, NACo invite JTPA alumni to attend Legislative Conference. alumni — from New Je Massachusetts, Maryla Missouri, Minnesota and Tex will be attending workshops meetings with county el officials, Department of L representatives, congressi staff, and members of the Hou Representatives and Senate.

For additional informatio National JTPA Alumni W contact Chris Kulick, N research associate, at 393-6226.

Labor Dep emphasize work-base learning

By Neil E. Bomberg
research associate

Dramatic changes in composition and size of the w force, changes in workp technology and internatio competition are three of the rea given for emphasizing the nee work-based learning, accordi the U.S. Department of L (DOL).

To that end, Secretary of La Elizabeth H. Dole rece established the Office of W Based Learning under the direc of James Van Erden, fo director or the Bureau Apprenticeship and Traini Employment and Traini Administration.

The Office of Work-Ba Learning is responsible fo apprenticeship and tr adjustment assistance and

See LEARNING, page 10

News from the nation's counties

North

NEW YORK

• In an effort to make it more ifficult for underage people to buy garettes from vending machines, RIE COUNTY recently passed a w requiring businesses to keep garette vending machines within esight of cashiers.

"The theory behind the law, is at by having an adult watching the achine, it may deter those enagers who normally would not empt to buy cigarettes over-the-unter," said County Legislator ichael H. Ranzenhofer, the onsor of the cigarette vending achine bill.

The law, which requires that all garette machines be within 20 t of a cash register, will be forced by the County Health epartment. Violators are subject a $50 fine or up to 10 days in jail.

• WESTCHESTER COUNTY gislators Paul Feiner, Martin gowsky and Joseph Delfino will co-sponsoring the 1990 Model unty Legislature for high school dents. On Monday, April 30, dents will act the parts of county gislators — proposing islation, voting on bills and nding committee meetings. A earing in ceremony will be held he legislative chambers for the del legislators.

Notices to social studies partment chairs in all of stchester County's high schools e been sent asking that they minate students to serve as mber of the Model County islature. The theme for this r's Model County Legislature ll be "Our Earth and ironment" in recognition of the th Day celebration taking place ughout the country. Students l be encouraged to propose islation dealing with the ironment.

PENNSYLVANIA

The ALLEGHENY UNTY commissioners recently pted a policy for all county es that is meant to ensure king environments that are free m all forms of sexual ssment.

The new policy establishes t guidelines for reporting, estigation and discipline rding any case of sexual ssment. The County Equal portunity (EEO) director will stigate all allegations of sexual ssment in as confidential a ner as possible and file a report, uding recommendations, to the ctor of administration within 30 from the date the complaint is d.

The director of administration take appropriate action or direct the matter to the attention of the department director if warranted. Any employee found to be in violation of the policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

The policy will be accompanied by a training program for county employees in supervisory roles.

• LANCASTER COUNTY Commissioner and former NACo Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee Chair James E. Huber has recommended that the prison board in his county take a close look at establishing a prison industry program through which inmates would earn "real world wages."

At present, 40 of the 485 Lancaster County Prison inmates work as part of an "outmate" program at job sites outside the prison. Another 65 inmates work inside the prison performing cleaning and maintenance duties, earning about $1 an hour.

Huber's proposal would increase the number of jobs available within the prison by creating a business in which prisoners work for an outside employer.

In the upcoming months the Lancaster County Prison Board will study prison industries in other areas of the country to determine the model best suited to its needs.

South

FLORIDA

• DADE COUNTY was one of 13 cities and counties recently honored with Technology Achievement Awards by Public Technology, Inc. Award winners were selected from more than 550 entries for their successes in finding better ways to operate at minimum cost and improving the delivery of services to their constituents.

Dade County was presented with an award in the Computer Technology and Telecommunications category of the competition for its video teleconference system that allows court victims and witnesses to be interviewed from remote sites. The system has resulted in a reduced absentee rate. In addition, travel costs for civilians and police witnesses have declined.

MARYLAND

• MONTGOMERY COUNTY Councilmembers gave their final nod of approval in a recent 6-1 vote to establish the Office of the People's Counsel.

"There are a multitude of ordinances, regulations and agencies that an average citizen must be familiar with to address a concern regarding land use issues," said Councilmember Isiah Leggett, the sponsor of the bill.

The primary function of the counsel will be to a complete fair record of proceedings in county land use decisions. It will also provide advice and technical assistance to citizens and officials involved in land use decisions.

VIRGINIA

• STAFFORD COUNTY recently received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its FY90 budget from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

To receive the award, Stafford County submitted its budget documents for review by a panel of independent budget experts. Reviewers rated the county's budget as a highly effective policy document, operations guide and financial plan.

Midwest

KANSAS

SB 310, which is currently in the Senate Energy Committee, would place a surcharge of $1 on each new tire sold in the state.

Revenues would be directed to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment which would establish a grant program to assist counties in building facilities to collect and process old tires.

The goal of the legislation is to provide a financial incentive that encourages the recycling of tires as opposed to taking them to local landfills.

The bill is supported by the Kansas Association of Counties.

MISSOURI

• Dee Joyner, chief of staff to ST. LOUIS COUNTY Executive H.C. Milford, is featured in the March issue of *Working Woman Magazine*. She is one of five women from across the country named as one of the new breed of leaders in the '90s. Joyner is recognized by the magazine as a boss who is a "team builder."

County Executive Milford said he is extremely proud of Joyner's recognition. "Her accomplishments have not only brought attention to her, but have focused the spotlight on St. Louis County as well," he said.

Joyner, who has a distinguished record of community service, was named chief of staff to Milford in

See NEWS FROM, next page

County Health REPORT

National Center for County Health Policy: Vol. 1, No. 1 April 15, 1990

County News is getting a new supplement: *County Health Report*. Starting next month, the four-page insert aims to keep readers informed and up to date on the public health issues that are looming larger for county policy-makers and their budgets.

Indigent health care. AIDS/HIV. Immunization. Finding the funds to finance county hospitals while federal assistance stagnates, or even shrinks.

These are just some of the issues that *County Health Report* will cover. The bimonthly supplement is being produced by the National Center for County Health Policy (NCCHP), established last year by NACo and Brandeis University's Bigel Institute for Health Policy.

County Health Report is only one facet of the public health policy work NCCHP plans under its $1.3 million, four-year grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Overall, the program will focus on creating a nationwide county health data base and demonstration programs in four counties. Its purpose is to provide a base level of knowledge and analysis of the $15 billion a year counties now spend on health care.

Mary Uyeda
NCCHP co-director
***County Health Report* editor**

Notices . . . notices . . . notices

CONFERENCES

■ Two experts in the field of employment and training, **Rochelle J. Daniels** and **John Chamberlin**, will conduct upcoming conferences on the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and the Job Opportunities and Basic Skills (JOBS) program: March 29-30 in Los Angeles, Calif. on JTPA; April 26-27 in Atlanta, Ga. on JOBS; and May 10-11 in Miami Beach, Fla. on JTPA.

Attendees at the JTPA meeting will learn effective negotiation techniques and how to avoid common procurement errors. The JOBS meeting attendees will learn how to negotiate coordination arrangements and how to find their way around the new regulations.

For more information, contact Chamberlin and Daniels Associates Seminar, 500 Yamhill Plaza, 815 S.W. 2nd Ave., Portland, OR 97204-3005.

■ In celebration of Keep America Beautiful Month and the 20th anniversary of Earth Day, **Keep America Beautiful, Inc.** (KAB) will host a nationwide video-conference on the solid waste issue on April 4 from 2 p.m.-4 p.m. (EST). Over 100 universities and community colleges across the country will carry the conference in which scholars, state, local and industry officials will discuss the solid waste problem.

To find out where the conference will be shown in your area, call the KAB headquarters at 202/323-8987.

■ **The Election Center**, an affiliate of the **Academy for State and Local Government**, is sponsoring four regional conferences on *"Professionalizing Election Administration."* The meetings scheduled are: April 26-27 in Mobile, Ala.; May 17-18 in Dallas, Texas; and Nov. 29-30 in Denver, Colo. Conference sessions will focus on effective management and voter participation.

Registration fee for Election Center members is $75; $95 for non-members. For more information, call the center at 1/800/237-7270.

■ **The Urban Mass Transportation Administration's** (UMTA) Sixth Annual Symposium on Private Sector Involvement in Public Transit takes place in Louisville, Ky., April 29-May 2.

The private sector's role in meeting the transportation challenges facing public transportation in the 1990s and beyond will be the focus of the conference.

For more information, write to: U.S. Department of Transportation, UMTA, 400 Seventh St., SW, Washington, D.C. 20590.

■ **Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government** is offering three workshops designed to help public managers and policy-makers identify and utilize strategic applications of information technologies. They are: *"Expert Systems,"* May 10-11 (registration cost is $600 for public sector); *"The 1990 National Conference on Strategic Computing and Telecommunications,"* May 30-June 1 ($900 for public sector); and *"Information Infrastructure for the 1990s and Beyond,"* Nov. 29-Dec. 1 ($800 for public sector).

For more information, contact Dr. Jerry Mechling, director, Strategic Computing and Telecommunications Program, Harvard University, 53 Church St., Cambridge, MA 02138, 617/495-3036.

PUBLICATIONS

■ A new action guide designed to help volunteer groups aid the hungry in their communities has been published by the **League of Women Voters Education Fund.** *"Fighting Hunger in Your Community"* provides nine basic guidelines for developing a local hunger effort, profiles 10 model projects, and lists local and national organizational contacts that work with the hungry and the homeless.

To order, send $5, plus $2.50 postage, to: League of Women Voters of the United States, 1730 M St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. When ordering, ask for Pub #893.

■ **The Center for Population Options** has several publications available addressing issues such as HIV infection prevention, using the TV in teaching kids about sexual responsibility, and date rape.

For a detailed publications brochure, contact the Center for Population Options, 1012 14th St., NW, Suite 1200, Washington, D.C. 20005-3406, 202/347-5700, FAX: 202/347-2263.

■ Two publications on aging issues have been released by the **American Planning Association.** *"Community-Based Housing for the Elderly,"* a report on the advantages of intergenerational neighborhoods, costs $25, including postage. *"Aging: The Community/Planning Interface"* is an annotated bibliography containing more than 150 listings of books, magazine and journal articles, brochures, and training materials to help officials plan for a graying population. The cost is $21, including postage.

To order both, contact the American Planning Association's Bookstore, 1313 E. 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637, 312/955-9100.

■ **The Federal Emergency Management Agency** (FEMA) has produced the *"CEO's Disaster Survival Kit,"* a booklet and wallet-sized card to help elected officials through the first few hours of community emergencies, including natural and technological hazards, acts of war, and events such as public demonstrations.

For ordering information, write to: U.S. Fire Administration, National Emergency Training Center, Emmitsburg, MD 21727.

MISCELLANEOUS

■ **The Public Finance Network** has released a video abo[ut] preserving tax- exempt munici[pal] bonds. *"Bonds Build America"* an 11-minute video which expla[ins] municipal bonds in general ter[ms] and focuses on examples of pub[lic] service projects financed by bon[ds]. It was produced to help st[ate] county and municipal offic[ials] create greater public awareness [of] the importance of municipal bon[ds] and to send a grassroots messag[e to] Congress that there should be [no] further tampering with these bon[ds].

Each copy costs $20. For [an] order form, write to: AP[...] Publications, 2301 M St., N[W,] Washington, D.C. 20037.

■ A national awards progr[am] commemorating the 2[5th] anniversary of the **Land a[nd] Water Conservation Fu[nd]** (LWCF) is accepting nominati[ons] of local officials involved [in] projects that involve federal s[...] acquired with LWCF monies a[nd] those state or local sites assis[ted] with a LWCF grant.

This one-time award will [be] presented during the Take Prid[e in] America National Awa[rds] Ceremony in July.

Nomination forms and o[ther] information may be obtained [by] calling Take Pride in America [at] 202/343-3700.

■ **The Government Accounting Standards Bo[ard]** (GASB) has issued a proposal [that] would establish standards [for] accounting for pensions by s[tate] and local government employ[ers]. If adopted as a final statement, [the] proposal would become effec[tive] for fiscal years beginning after J[une] 15, 1994.

Comments on the propo[sal] *"Accounting for Pensions by S[tate] and Local Governmen[tal] Employers,"* are requested by M[ay] 31. A public hearing has b[een] scheduled for May 2 in Cincin[nati].

For more information, co[ntact] GASB, 401 Merritt 7, P.O. [Box] 5116, Norwalk, CT 06856-5[116,] 203/847-0700.

LEARNING from page 8

oversees JTPA's worker retraining programs and will be funding school-to-work demonstration projects where it is expected that job training programs may take an active role.

Noting the need to work closely with education programs, Van Erden recently met with Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education staff to review DOL's proposed efforts around school-to-work programs.

The Office of Work-Based Learning was established in response to a DOL report entitled, "Work-Based Learning: Training America's Workers."

That report urged the department to provide national leadership on skill development programs for America's workers.

Noting that a more and more "flexible work force will be needed," the department was urged to develop strategies for educating and retraining workers within the workplace.

Taking its cue from the belief that, as a nation, our ability to compete in world markets is being reduced because we are making inadequate investments in our most important resource: people, this report makes eight broad recommendations.

1) Expand structured work-based training programs through development and implementation of new training program models based on the features of apprenticeship programs.

2) Establish a national work-based training body to recommend policy and provide direction for supporting and assisting in the delivery of work-based training programs.

3) Streamline and coordinate federal regulations and policies affecting apprenticeship in order to encourage expansion of the basic apprenticeship model.

4) Improve administration of the existing system so that it operates effectively and fairly.

5) Enhance the recognition value of program sponsorship and certification of skill attainment by instituting program criteria designed to ensure quality.

6) Develop work-based learning alternatives for non-college-bound youth to assist them in effectively making the transition from school to work.

7) Provide additional incentives to encourage employers to adopt structured work-based training programs.

8) Intensify publicity at national, state and local levels.

With the new Office of Work-Based Learning in place, it is expected that these recommendations will be implemented.

News from from previous page

October of last year. Prior to that, she was the executive director of the St. Louis County Economic Council and director of planning in the administration of former County Executive Gene McNary.

NORTH DAKOTA

• **WALSH COUNTY** is the first unit of local government in North Dakota to be certified to directly participate in the nation's historic preservation program, according to the North Dakota State Historical Society.

By becoming certified, the county is eligible to receive up to $26,000 in matching funds during the 1990 federal fiscal year. The county's historic preservation committee plans to use the funds to develop a brochure publicizing sites within the county that are on the National Historic Register.

West

TEXAS

• **TRAVIS COUNTY** recently opened a new Juvenile Justice Center which houses courtrooms, administrative offices, juvenile probation services, intake and residential facilities, an activities center, a delinquency preven[tion] program, and a shelter for chil[dren] on probation who are in crisis.

Last year, more than 3[...] children between the ages of 10 [and] 17 were referred to juvenile co[urt in] Travis County for felony [or] misdemeanor violations. Rou[ghly] 1,700 of these were detained [and] their cases were settled thr[ough] release, probation or placeme[nt].

The new $10 million ce[nter] which can accommodate [...] juveniles, was named after Ch[...] O. Betts and J. Harris Gar[...] longtime juvenile court judges [who] were considered national lead[ers in] the juvenile justice field.

Neal R. Peirce

Governors' education agenda: can they be serious?

The United States' education ablishment will have to be aken to its roots if the nation's vernors are to come close to the ghly ambitious education goals the year 2000 which they've just eed on with President Bush.

The six goals, hammered out in bernatorial-White House gotiations and unveiled in the esident's State of the Union dress, were fleshed out with 21 ecific objections at the vernors' meeting in Washington t week. They set a standard of ure excellence far beyond ything educators have told us we seriously hope for anytime on.

Not a single governor opposed goals. But underneath, there's nsiderable nervousness. For less the schools of America prove at amazing velocity for 10 rs running, the goals may — as uglas Wilder, Virginia's new vernor, warn — "prove not just ty, but unattainable." And ay's governors, along with sh, will go down in history as ne of the most outrageous wboaters of our political tory.

Without an entire new culture of ning and seriousness in the ools, how likely is it that the high school graduation rate can be upped from today's 72 percent to 90 percent in 2000 — the goal Bush and the governors agree on? Kids of the prospective high school class of 2000, many from poor and chaotic families, are already in second grade.

What is the prospect of making our students "first in the world" in math and science by the end of the decade when thousands of teachers are shaky in those basic skills, and when today's test scores show us running last among major industrialized nations?

How likely is it that every American child will "start school ready to learn" unless we're ready to provide, not only just universal Head Start but, billions of dollars worth of counseling for disadvantaged and troubled families?

Or that we'll come up with the vast billions to assure, as the governors and the president just promised, that within the decade our 23 million functionally illiterate adults will have acquired basic English and math skills?

The opposite side of the coin, of course, is the grim alternative of limping along with tiny increments of improvement. Restructuring the entire system of American education "is daunting." A new publication from the National Governors' Association warns: "But the consequences of avoiding it are catastrophic. Slow, piecemeal change will leave our education system in the dust as the speed of change throughout the world accelerates."

High goals, National Governors' Association Chairman Terry Branstad (Iowa) told me, are necessary "to achieve anything... We can't just leave it to the educational establishment."

Some ingredients of change are appearing.

First, the business community, through the influential Conference Board of the nation's largest corporations, has signed on to support the governors in stem-to-stern reform in every state, and to stay with it for the decade. That should translate into critical political support.

Second, methods to break the closed-system, monopolistic pattern of public schooling in America are starting to surface and get adopted.

Examples: letting parents and students pick between public schools (Minnesota, New York's East Harlem and other locations), decentralizing authority to parent-controlled, school-level committees (Chicago is the top example), and encouraging "lateral entry" into teaching by talented people who haven't run the dreary treadmill of state teacher college training (New Jersey).

Education establishments have fought all those reforms. But we're not learning what a truly restructured American school system might look like. The best blueprint yet comes in a booklet from the governors' own Center for Policy Research, called "Results in Education."

For American students to achieve vastly improved knowledge and conceptual power — "higher order" beyond mere basic skills — the report says schools must have far "more discretion and authority to achieve results, and then be held accountable for them."

Under this formula, schools would become largely independent learning enterprises. Teachers and principals would be free to experiment, invent, try unusual team teaching, pick their own textbooks and set their new curricula. States would step in to rescue and reform failing school systems.

But the states would turn from heavy regulators to cheerleaders for the good systems. That means a radical turnabout in the mental attitude of state school bureaucracies whose staffers have been taught to demand that principals and teachers respond, marionette-style, to thousands of regulations and mandates. And school boards would have to learn — or be forced — to keep their hands off big chunks of school policy and administration.

For any of this to happen, governors will have to be super-persuaders, helping to inspire principals and teachers and on occasion using their political capital to take on powerful forces resistant to change.

Eventually, true reform is also going to cost mega-billions. A fraction of that may come from the federal government, but most from states. That means, inevitably, new state taxes. Are the governors ready for that?

They're not saying yet. The smart ones know the "institutional" school problem comes first. And that subduing or converting resistant school bureaucracies may be even tougher than finding the money for the strong schools that a strong nation will need.

Job market

IRECTOR, FACILITIES, ANNING AND NSTRUCTION — PALM CH COUNTY, FLA.: Salary n DOQs. New executive level ion responsible to county engineer programming, site acquisition, gn and construction of county ed facilities. Approximately M in current projects, staff of t 60 people. Requires graduation major coursework in business nistration, public administration, itecture or related field and agement level experience in ities planning, financing and ruction. Send resume by April 11 to: Robert E. Slavin, President , Inc., 2801 Buford Highway, Suite 470, Atlanta, Georgia 29, (404)248-1800; FAX 248-1212. EOE//Recruiter.

TY MANAGER — CITY OF EPORT, FLA.: (population 0). Salary Open DOQs. Charter Reports to excellent 5-member Council; responsible for $9M t and FTE staff of 164. Full e Pinellas County City with es and marina. Excellent tunity for experienced local nment manager or full breadth ant. Requires minimum of lor's degree, above indicated ence preferable in Florida or growth setting. Send resume by 11,1990 to: Robert E. Slaven, ent MSN, Inc., 2801 Buford way, N.E., Suite 470, Atlanta, ia 30329, (404)248-1800; FAX 248-1212. EOE/Recruiter.

CIVIL ENGINEER - BRIDGES — DEFIANCE COUNTY, OHIO: Rural county in Northwest Ohio with 40,000 population seeking a qualified individual having a BSCE with minimum of five (5) years experience in design of bridges. Knowledge of bridge maintenance, bridge inspection, bridge rating, computer applications, hydraulics, roadway designs and related areas is desirable. Excellent benefits. Salary commensurate with experience. Submit resume to the Defiance County Engineer, 500 Second Street, Defiance, Ohio 43512.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW SPECIALIST III — LEE COUNTY, FLA.: ($26,536 - $37,494) Lee County, a progressive organization with excellent benefits is seeking a Professional to perform technical and supervisory work in the review of sites and plans for compliance with the Development Standards Ordiance. Requires a 4-year degree in planning, engineering or related field plus 3 years experience in planning, development review, engineering inspections or related area. Send resume with SS# to Lee County Personnel, P.O. Box 398, Ft. Myers, FL 33902. EOE, Vet. Pref. Documentation required.

SOLID WASTE (ENVIRONMENTAL) PROGRAM MANAGER — CITY OF SUNNYVALE, CA.: (POP. 117,000) Competitive salary, plus exceptional benefits package. Sunnyvale is an industrial/residential community located 45 miles south of San Francisco and in the heart of Silicon Valley. The position is appointed by/reports to the Director of Public Works, works closely with other division/program managers and environmental consulting firms, and is responsible for a $15 million budget. Candidates should have a degree in civil engineering, public administration or a related field. Several years of high level management experience in the solid waste field is required. Ideal candidates will have experience and knowledge of the principles and operations of solid waste disposal and collection, waste-to-energy facilities, resource recovery and long-range solutions to waste disposal. Please send resumes by 5/1/90 to Norman Roberts & Associates, Inc., ATTN: Norm Roberts, Pres., 12424 Wilshire, #850, Los Angeles, CA 90025-1042.

RECYCLING SPECIALIST— SNOHOMISH COUNTY, EVERETT, WASH.: ELIGIBILITY LIST ($2,382 - $2,895 per month plus benefits) To perform a variety of duties for the Solid Waste Division to develop support for a county-wide recycling program. Researching, planning, implementing and managing recycling programs. A bachelor's degree in business or public administration, communications, education or a related field; OR any equivalent combination of education and experience that provides the required, knowledge and abilities. No resumes accepted. To request application by mail, send self-addressed, stamped (25 cents) legal envelope indicating job title. A completed application must be returned to Snohomish County Personnel, 1st Floor, Administration Bldg., 300 Rockerfeller, Everett, WA 98201, by closing date of 3/30/90. E.O.E.