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Vol. 10, No. 13

COUNTY NEWS

"The Wisdom to Know and the Courage to Defend the Public Interest"

March 27, 1978



A New Bill for Transportation

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A new transportation bill for 1978 provides nearly \$65 billion over four years for highways, highway safety and mass transit programs, and includes a \$2 billion authorization for highway bridge replacement.

The Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978, introduced by Rep. Jim Howard (D-N.J.) last week, is the result of more than three years of testimony and hearings. The bill represents portions of Howard's H.R. 8648, the Surface Transportation Act of 1977, and the Administration's transportation proposals contained in H.R. 10578.

HIGHWAY

The highway section of the Howard bill proposes program levels of approximately \$9.1 billion in fiscal '79 and \$8.9 billion for each of fiscal years '80-'82. Unlike the Administration's consolidated highway proposal, existing highway categories are included at specific authorization levels. H.R. 10578 would repeal and consolidate a number of existing highway categories at a significantly lower level of funding.

Increased spending for interstate highways to \$4 billion and extended completion of this program through 1992 are contained in the Howard

bill. The Administration's proposal sets interstate completion funding at \$3.2 billion and accelerates the deadline for completion of all interstate highway gaps to 1986. Howard's bill would provide \$250 million for rural interstate routes designated "essential" and \$250 million for urban interstate projects of unusually high cost or which would otherwise require long periods of time.

Noninterstate highway or mass transit projects substituted for withdrawn interstate segments would have to be approved by Sept. 30, 1982.

The new bill also contains interstate 3R program (resurfacing, restoration and rehabilitation) at \$175 million per year. Funds are apportioned similar to existing law but a factor based on vehicle miles traveled on such roads has been added.

In the bill, the secondary road program would be continued in the same manner as now exists. However, secondary authorizations are increased by \$250 million to \$650 million annually.

The Administration's secondary road authorization totals \$400 million. The increase must be used for resurfacing, restoration and rehabilitation on the secondary system. Specifically, 36 percent or more of each state's secondary authorizations must be obligated by the state for 3R work.

The Safer-Off-System road authorizations, in Howard's bill, are increased from \$200 million to \$300 million per year, with a requirement that a minimum of 50 percent of each

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Highway, bridge funds in bill—NACo chairman for bridges Jim Howard, chairman of Allegheny County Board of Commissioners, at right, supports support to Rep. Jim Howard.

NACo NAMED INTERIM COORDINATOR

U.S. Jail Coalition Launched

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—People who don't belong in jail and jails that aren't suitable for people were the rallying points for some 30 national organizations meeting recently at the John Foundation Conference Center to begin formation of a National Coalition for Jail Reform. The meeting was convened by the National Association of Counties Research Foundation, the American Bar Association's Commission on Correctional Facilities and Services, the American Correctional Association, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, and the National Chiefs Association.

The 60 conferees, meeting at the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed home, Wingspread, spent four days discussing the issues a national coalition should address. NACo was selected to coordinate the work of the coalition until a permanent organization structure is designed. Final decisions about structure and goals will be made in conjunction with NACo's Second National

Assembly on the Jail Crisis to be held in Minneapolis, Minn. May 17-20.

THE CONFERENCE featured panel sessions on the appropriateness of jail confinement, intergovernmental cooperation for jail reform, state standards, correctional accreditation, and coalition building.

Working through small group workshops, consensus was reached on issues the coalition should address, including:

- "Reduction of 'inappropriate confinement' by diverting non-dangerous offenders to community-based programs, decriminalization of offenses that pose no threat to

people or property, and the use of pretrial confinement only when shown to be necessary to assure the accused's presence at trial, to protect the public from harm, or to preserve the integrity of the criminal justice system.

- Improvement of "inappropriate facilities" by developing standards, creating training programs for jail personnel, stimulating public awareness and involvement through educational programs which include citizen contact with prisoners. The conferees also agreed upon the need for evaluation procedures for those entering the criminal justice system; health, educational, and social pro-

grams for inmates; and increased funding, monitoring, planning, and research efforts.

Rosemary Ahmann, Olmsted County (Minn.) commissioner and NACo chairperson for corrections, welcomed the participants to Wingspread with a call for collective action for jail reform. She noted, "There are many people in jail who simply do not belong there."

Ahmann reminded the participants that a broad-scale coalition for jail reform has never been attempted and informed the group that success in this coalition could lead to success in other areas of criminal justice.



Rosemary Ahmann, chairperson of NACo's subcommittee on corrections, chaired the Wingspread symposium on the formation of a national coalition for jail reform. She is pictured with Leslie Paffrath, president of the John Foundation. At right is Norval Morris, dean of the University of Chicago Law School, who keynoted the meeting.

Tough Tests Ahead for Welfare Dollars

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Although both the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee have recommended that \$400 million in fiscal relief be provided to counties and states in fiscal '79, the fate of this proposal is uncertain.

Under the congressional budget process, authorizing committees in both Houses must make budget recommendations to their respective budget committees by March 15. (Both House and Senate committees have done this). By April 15 each budget committee must report out a concurrent resolution setting forth spending levels for the coming fiscal year.

Beginning the week of April 3, the Senate and House committees will begin marking up the budget resolution for the coming year. It is essential that county officials contact members of both committees and their own members of Congress im-

mediately to urge them to retain the \$400 million in fiscal relief for 1979 proposed by the committees.

Payment of the \$187 million in fiscal relief provided for 1978 in the Social Security Financing Amendments is being held up, pending a legal determination by the Appropriations Committees and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Following each House's passage of its budget resolution, a conference is held and a final congressional budget resolution must be passed by both Houses by May 15.

If funds for a program are not provided in the congressional budget resolution, it is virtually impossible to obtain funding until the next fiscal year.

County officials are urged to contact the budget committee members now. (See list of members, page 12.)

—Aliceann Fritschler

Save CETA

Editorial, page 2.
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County Opinion

Welfare Reform Is Tax Reform

Where is welfare reform now? Will it be allowed to lie dormant in the House, victim of a too-ambitious legislative calendar? Will the leadership buy the caveat that tax reform is more important than welfare reform? Will those who could benefit from welfare reform and those who pay for it be expected to wait in turn for low priority attention in Congress?

In a recent meeting between House and Senate leaders with President Carter on the fate of the welfare bill, the President reaffirmed his personal commitment to welfare reform—and to his own overhaul of any of the incremental alternatives. We're glad for that. But he agreed that in the scheme of things, tax reform comes first. Without continued strong support from the White House and the administrative agencies, welfare reform will not be able to compete for the urgent attention of Congress needed to pass it this year.

At NACo's recent legislative conference

CETA Markup

The House and Senate subcommittees will be marking up the Administration's CETA reenactment bill (H.R. 11086; S. 2570) in mid-April. County officials will have to live with the results of this congressional action for the next four years.

Your activity during the recess of writing to and meeting with members of Congress is crucial to preserving the local decision-making role of the chief elected official in CETA.

Check the list below for congressmen who are important to the subcommittee markup.

county officials overwhelmingly reaffirmed that welfare reform is still a number one priority of county government. The \$7 billion to \$8 billion we are spending on welfare comes directly from the property tax. For most counties it is the single largest expense—as much as 60 percent of the county budget in some urban counties. Commerce Secretary Juanita Kreps reviewed the situation for us: "persistent unemployment, low incomes, self-perpetuating cycles of poverty, and declining local tax revenues." These, combined with increasing welfare caseloads, threaten the viability of counties.

So the message to Congress from counties has to be as clear as this: **Welfare Reform Is Tax Reform.** We need welfare reform as much now as when Jimmy Carter agreed to make it a campaign issue; as much as when the new President, in office only days, responded to us by ordering a plan for overhaul by May 1; as much as when California's Rep. Jim Corman took up the gauntlet to get a bill reported out of his special welfare reform committee by Christmas; as much as we need tax reform. We need it NOW!

A year has passed since the Administration began to roll on this issue. The timing is urgent if Congress is to act in this session. County officials have got to get the message to the White House and to each of your representatives in Congress. We have to assure President Carter of our backing him on this; let Congress know that people in the hinterlands need this reform; make sure they know from their constituents that you still want welfare reform—this year.

Help Save CETA

County officials can help reverse the trend away from local control of CETA. Call, write or wire and urge the following changes in the CETA reenactment bills, S. 2570/H.R. 11086:

- The elimination of Sections 212 and 438(a)(2). These would nearly freeze the mix of CETA training and developmental services under Title II at their fiscal '77 levels.
- Making staff "responsive to" the CETA advisory council, not "solely accountable to" it as specified in Section 109. Let Congress know that you endorse a strong and active council, but it makes no sense for a volunteer council to supervise staff.
- A legislative limit on the number and frequency of required reports and grant submissions.
- The elimination of the presumptive role of the Employment Service (ES) by deleting Section 103(b)(2). The governor's comments should not outweigh local decisions, so revise Sections 104(b) and (c).
- The overhaul of public service employment as described in the bill. "Projects" and the quarterly grant system should be eliminated. There should be two separate programs—structural and countercyclical. The

\$10,000 salary ceiling should be raised and/or indexed.

- Eligibility for everything except countercyclical PSE should be uniform at 100 percent of the Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) lower living standard budget.
- A limit on the Secretary's authority by reducing funds available for Title III to 10 percent in Section 122(d) and a requirement that rules and reporting be set and unchanged by the beginning of each fiscal year.

In addition to your own delegation, the following members of Congress should hear your views on CETA:

Rep. Carl Perkins (D-Ky.)
2365 Rayburn House Office Building

Rep. John Dent (D-Pa.)
2104 Rayburn House Office Building

Rep. Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif.)
2350 Rayburn House Office Building

Rep. William Clay (D-Mo.)
2264 Rayburn House Office Building

Rep. James Jeffords (R-Vt.)
429 Cannon House Office Building

Rep. Joseph LeFante (D-N.J.)
507 Cannon House Office Building

Rep. Ted Weiss (D-N.Y.)
1229 Longworth House Office Bldg.

Rep. Baltasar Corrada (D-P.R.)
1319 Longworth House Office Bldg.

Rep. Albert Quie (R-Minn.)
2185 Rayburn House Office Building

Rep. Carl Pursell (R-Mich.)
1709 Longworth House Office Bldg.

Rep. Ronald Sarasin (R-Conn.)
229 Cannon House Office Building

Rep. Edward Beard (D-R.I.)
131 Cannon House Office Building

Rep. Michael Myers (D-Pa.)
1331 Longworth House Office Bldg.

Sen. Harrison A. Williams (D-N.J.)
352 Russell Senate Office Building

Sen. Gaylord Nelson (D-Wis.)
5241 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.)
229 Russell Senate Office Building

Sen. William Hathaway (D-Maine)
248 Russell Senate Office Building

Sen. Donald Riegle (D-Mich.)
1207 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Sen. Jacob Javits (R-N.Y.)
321 Russell Senate Office Building

Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah)
6317 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Sen. John Chafee (R-R.I.)
3105 Dirksen Senate Office Building



NACo Study Tour to France Planned

Some American county officials will be celebrating Bastille Day in Paris this year. Those participating in NACo's two-week study tour to France, July 13-27, following the Annual Conference in Atlanta, will find the parades and fireworks of July 14 an auspicious beginning to their stay.

After a predeparture briefing in Atlanta, the first week of the tour will be spent in Paris and its environs. During this time, participants will be exploring the city with knowledgeable guides and on an individual basis and visiting the surrounding countryside. Excursions offer a choice of Reims and the Champagne region, Versailles, Chartres and Fontainebleau.

County officials will be able to compare responsibilities in small-group seminars with French government officials. Subjects include historical preservation and the center city, public housing in Paris, transportation services and planning, and health, education and welfare.

Other unique Parisian attractions will be a cooking school, the outdoor market and the Gobelins tapestry factory.

AFTER PARIS, group members may choose one of two different travel seminars—either to the Loire Valley or to Burgundy—with the educational program focusing on local government at the prefecture level. Both groups return to Paris for a July 27 departure to New York.

Highlights of the Loire Valley trip will be the cathedral at Chartres, the magnificent chateaux, some of which date from the Middle Ages, and a chance to sample some of the fine wines of the region. The group will also visit the cities of Tours and Orleans.

Burgundy, a province also noted for its outstanding wines, offers numerous opportunities for wine-tasting at famous vineyards and wineries, including the oldest wine-

making installation in France, Chenove. Other sites include the Hotel-Dieu at Beaune, a hospital which has been in operation since 1450, and Dijon.

Travel arrangements are made by Academic Travel Agency, Inc. Basic cost per person is \$1,190 with an optional single room charge of \$190, and a surcharge for the Burgundy excursion of \$25.

Basic fee covers regularly scheduled airline flights from Atlanta to Paris and back to New York; complete predeparture program of lectures in Atlanta; first-class travel with bath; continental breakfast in Paris, with breakfast and one daily meal during the six-day travel seminar to Burgundy or Loire; complete program of governmental seminars and sightseeing excursions; and professional English-speaking guides as well as American tour escorts.

Reservations will be on a first-come, first-served basis, but all applications must be made by the first of June. For further information, contact Ervin at Academic Travel Agency (202/223-2484) or Margaret Taylor at NACo (202/785-9577).

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CETA Reenactment

Carter: CETA Jobs Top Goals! NACo: Why Toy with Success?

Dates Given for Panels to Mark Up CETA Bills

WASHINGTON, D.C.—“The level of public service jobs under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) program reached 83,000 in the first week of March,” according to a statement released March 14 by President Carter. “This surpasses the target of 725,000 we set for that date more than nine months ago.”

“Last May, when the Economic Stimulus Package was passed, there were fewer than 300,000 jobs being provided by the major Public Service Employment titles of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act. There were numerous contentions that we would be unable to meet our schedule of 725,000 jobs by March 1.”

“Not only did we meet the target, but we met it in the week we had scheduled more than nine months ago. This demonstrates that the CETA system is an effective fiscal policy tool that can move rapidly against the problem of unemployment.”

CARTER ADDED that the expansion was accomplished “without the creation of a large new federal bureaucracy” and “without a significant degree of substitution of CETA workers for regular municipal employees.”

Carter credited the increase in CETA employment since May at least partially with recent falling unemployment statistics.

“The unemployment rate fell from 7.1 percent to 6.1 percent now,” he said. “Black employment increased by 5.9 percent. It is estimated that 33 percent of that increase was due to the buildup of the CETA system jobs.”

“The growth since May has been concentrated much more heavily among disadvantaged workers than before. Prior to the expansion, fewer than half the enrollees in the major CETA employment titles were disadvantaged. During the expansion, more than 86 percent of new enrollees were disadvantaged. I have submitted to Congress a reauthorization of the CETA bill that will devote 100 percent of the future resources of the system to the disadvantaged.”

DRASTIC CHANGES

Carter's CETA reauthorization bill (S. 2570/HR. 11086) would drastically change the current public service jobs program.

More than half of the current jobs (110,000 in Title II and roughly 300,000 “sustainment” jobs in Title VI) have been available to individuals unemployed for 30 days. Although nearly half the jobs were filled by poor people, there has been no income criterion. Moreover, these jobs could be part of regular public or nonprofit agencies.

Under the Administration's new bill, all public service jobholders would have to meet family poverty criteria and be unemployed for five weeks or more.

More significant to many counties would be the requirement that all new jobs would have to be part of limited duration “projects” set apart

from regular public or nonprofit employment. Exceptions would be made for individuals already on board, but in general, they would have to be phased out within 12 months.

The bill would also limit each individual's participation to 18 months in any five-year period.

It would retain the current \$10,000 ceiling on salaries, but would add strict new requirements that wages average \$7,800. In addition, governments would not be allowed to supplement the CETA wage with local funds in professional job categories. Supplementation of non-professional wages could not exceed 10 percent of the grant amount.

“The new bill also contains a provision that automatically increases the funding for this program when the unemployment rate rises,” Carter said.

However, starting in 1980, according to the bill, fewer jobs would be authorized than are currently available. For example, if unemployment in 1980 equalled the February 1978 rate of joblessness, only \$5 billion would be available. This would eliminate about 225,000 current public service jobs.

Another feature of the bill's “triggered authorization” is its quarterly application. This would mean quarterly public service employment

grants to counties. NACo has opposed this provision from the standpoint that counties need at least annual allocations in order to plan and properly manage the system.

COUNTY SERVICES

Counties across the country are studying the Administration's proposed changes to measure their effect on counties' ability to continue to provide extra public services through CETA.

Smaller counties, in particular, are worried that the “all project” approach will exclude them from participation. As Dr. John Mori of LaSalle County, Ill. explained, “In more rural areas, there are few social or not-for-profit agencies who wish to compete for funds. There is still a great reluctance on the part of these agencies and governmental units to become involved in federal programs.”

“Moreover, many of these agencies are quite small (also governmental units) and they do not have the capital to become involved in projects, but can put regular public service participants to work.”

“It's ironic,” NACo Associate Director Jon Weintraub said, “that the Administration is proposing a major overhaul of the system just as they are announcing its success. It's as if they were saying, ‘It works, so let's change it.’”

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Rep. Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif.) has announced plans to begin drawing up the Administration's controversial Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) reauthorization bill, H.R. 11086, in his House subcommittee on employment opportunities April 11. The Senate subcommittee on employment, poverty and migratory labor, chaired by Sen. Gaylord Nelson (D-Wis.), will mark up the identical bill, S. 2570, starting April 24.

The stage of markup in the two subcommittees is the key event for groups like NACo which hope to achieve substantial changes before the bill is reported out of committee.

NACo CALLED for an overhaul of the Administration's bill in testimony before the Senate subcommittee March 6 and the House group March 16. NACo will return to the House panel April 6 to expand upon its testimony.

Hawkins also asked NACo Associate Director Jon Weintraub to join him March 22 in a meeting of Labor Department and other public interest group representatives in hopes of resolving some of the disagreements surrounding the bill.

Primary among NACo's objections to the bill is its “extreme recategorization” of CETA, which was initially enacted as a block grant

program for employment and training efforts geared to the poor, unemployed and underemployed.

NACo argued that county officials operating as “prime sponsors” would be left responsible for the funds but without sufficient authority to manage the program or respond to local priorities. For example, the proposed Title II (which would replace what is now Title I training and development efforts) would freeze most training programs to at least their fiscal '77 levels. It would set ceilings of half the funds for work experience and public service jobs and five percent for upgrading activities. The current freeze on services to youth would remain in effect.

Eligibility criteria for the new bill would further limit counties' options to respond to local priorities, according to NACo. Training and development services would be authorized only for those in poverty level families who also fit the definitions of unemployed, underemployed or in-school. This would exclude traditional target groups like the handicapped and young people referred by criminal justice agencies.

Public service jobs would be available only as short-term projects outside regular county employment and only open to people who were jobless for five weeks and met the poverty criterion.

Title XX Budget Committees Will Decide Funding Levels

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Requests for increased funding for Title XX (social services) will be considered by Budget Committees in both Houses in April as members work to set spending limits for fiscal '79.

Even though no legislation to raise the Title XX spending ceiling has passed either the House or Senate, the money has to be included in the First Budget Resolution by April 15 or it is ruled out for the coming fiscal year.

Along with a \$200 million increase for social services, NACo is urging a \$200 million increase for child welfare services (Title IV-B).

In the House, Reps. Don Fraser (D-Minn.) and Martha Keys (D-Kan.) have introduced H.R. 10833 which would increase the Title XX ceiling from \$2.7 billion to \$2.9 billion in fiscal '79; \$3.15 billion in fiscal '80; and \$3.45 billion in fiscal '81. The bill has 118 cosponsors.

No similar legislation exists in the Senate. Plans are being formulated to add a Title XX funding amendment to H.R. 7200, the Public Assistance Amendments of 1977, when that bill is considered by the Senate.

H.R. 7200 was passed by the House last year. When the bill reaches the Senate floor (after the Panama Canal vote) it is expected that an amendment will be offered to raise the Title XX ceiling to \$2.9 billion.

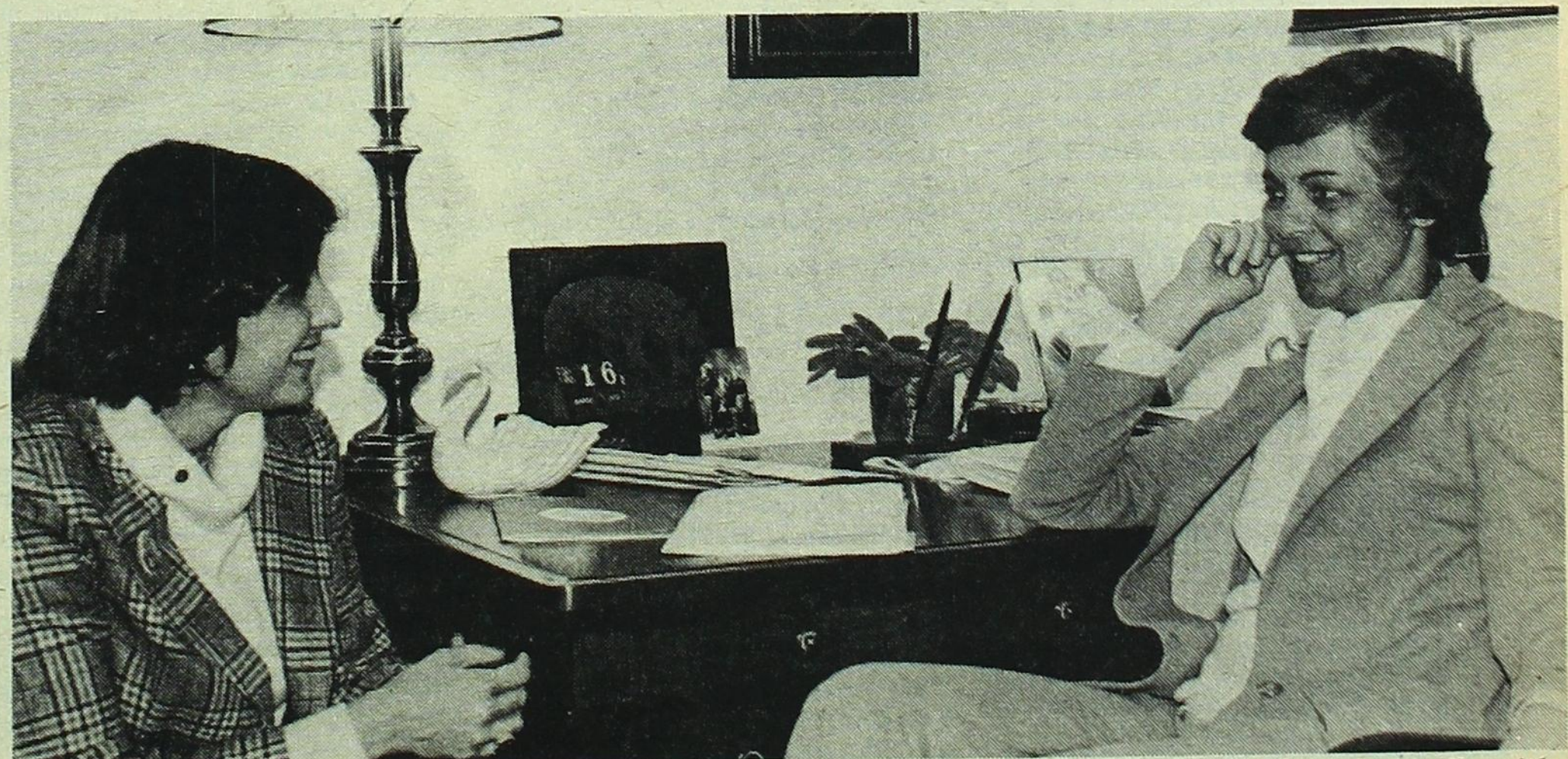
It is hoped that support for the Fraser-Keys bill among House mem-

bers would influence the conferees to retain the Title XX increases.

Increased funding for child welfare services is in both H.R. 7200 and the Senate counterpart. The House bill increases the current funding from \$56.5 million to \$266 million in fiscal '79. The Senate version currently shows a smaller increase up to \$84 million in fiscal '79 and moving toward \$266 million over a period of time. NACo strongly supports the House version.



Frank Jungas, chairman of NACo's Welfare and Social Services Steering Committee, discusses Title XX funding with Rep. Donald Fraser, left.



During the Legislative Conference, Lynn Cutler, chairperson of NACo's subcommittee on social services, talks with Rep. Martha Keys, right.

NEED INFORMATION?

NACo's HOTLINE

202/785-9591

Older Americans Act

Letters to NACo

Editor's Note: Many county officials have contacted NACo and members of their congressional delegation about changes needed in the Older Americans Act which is up for reauthorization this year. The following are a few examples of what county officials have written. If you have any comments to make on the act, be sure to write the members of the two committees with jurisdiction over the act. Committee members are listed below.

Dear Sen. (Orrin G.) Hatch:

As you reconsider the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, we urge you to keep in mind the role of county governments as you revise the act. It seems that more and more the federal government is taking over the control of matters that are better left up to the local officials.

—Board of County Commissioners, Utah County, Utah
Karl R. Lyman, Chairman
Yukus Y. Inouye, Commissioner
Kenneth J. Pinegar, Commissioner

To All Members of the Senate Subcommittee on Aging:

We, as county commissioners, feel county government should be considered in the revision of the Older Americans Act for better services for the rural elderly. ...

We feel the smaller counties should not be left out in planning revisions of the Older Americans Act.

—Pickaway County Board of Commissioners
Donald E. Strous, Commissioner
L. Robert Liston Jr., Commissioner
Carl C. Schein, Commissioner
Circleville, Ohio

Dear Sen. (Dennis) DeConcini:

... Hopefully, you will make it mandatory that we have more involvement by local elected officials with area agencies as well as the approval by local governments of planning within their jurisdictions. We would also like to expand the list of eligible priority services under Title III to include such services as health clinics and screening, adult daycare, nursing home ombudsman and preplacement screening, and dental health care. ...

—Sam Lena, Supervisor
Pima County Board of Supervisors
Tucson, Ariz.

Dear Sen. (Thomas F.) Eagleton:

... I, being in the health field on the county level, feel changes are needed (in the act) as there are duplications under the Title programs which not only waste time and money, but are very confusing to the elderly.

Consolidation of Titles III, V, VII and IX into one program with a three-year planning cycle would facilitate the coordination of progress. ...

After working in the public health field for several years, I feel that NACo's recommendations are realistic and strongly urge you to consider supporting these recommendations.

—(Mrs.) Aurelia P. Wood, R.N.
Acting Administrator/CHN II
St. Genevieve County Health Department
St. Genevieve, Mo.

Dear Mr. Koppel, Legislative Representative, NACo:

We are writing to you and your readers to support your work aimed at revising the Older Americans Act. ...

The area agency on aging concept must be changed ... They must be tied to county government. Accountability must be brought into play. ...

—Joseph Wojtysiak, Director
Gogebic County Commission on Aging
Ironwood, Mich.

Senate Committee on Human Resources

4230 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202/224-5375

Chairman: Harrison Williams Jr. (D-N.J.)
Jennings Randolph (D-W.Va.)
Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.)
Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.)*
Gaylord Nelson (D-Wis.)
Thomas Eagleton (D-Mo.)*
Alan Cranston (D-Calif.)
William Hathaway (D-Maine)
Don Riegle (D-Mich.)
Jacob Javits (R-N.Y.)
Richard Schweiker (R-Pa.)
Robert Stafford (R-Vt.)
Orrin Hatch (R-Utah)
John Chafee (R-R.I.)*
S.I. Hayakawa (R-Calif.)*

*Also members of the Senate Subcommittee on Aging

House Committee on Education and Labor

2181 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202/225-4527

Chairman: Carl Perkins (D-Ky.)
John Brademas (D-Ind.)*
George Miller (D-Calif.)*
Dale Kildee (D-Mich.)*
Edwin Beard (D-R.I.)*
Cecil Heftel (D-Hawaii)*
Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif.)*
Mario Biaggi (D-N.Y.)*
William Ford (D-Mich.)
Phillip Burton (D-Calif.)
William Clay (D-Mo.)
Michael Blouin (D-Iowa)
Robert Cornell (D-Wis.)
Ronald Mottl (D-Ohio)
Michael Myers (D-Pa.)
Austin Murphy (D-Pa.)
Theodore Weiss (D-N.Y.)
Baltasar Corrada (Puerto Rico)
Paul Simon (D-Ill.)
Leo Zeferetti (D-N.Y.)
Joseph LeFante (D-N.J.)
Frank Thompson Jr. (D-N.J.)
John Dent (D-Pa.)
Joseph Gaydos (D-Pa.)

*Also members of the Subcommittee on Select Education

Administration's Plans Unveiled

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Administration's plans for the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act were unveiled by Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) Secretary Joseph Califano during testimony before the House subcommittee on select education.

"What we propose is that the act be extended for two years with some relatively modest changes intended to strengthen the network of services to the aging that now exists," Califano said.

Some of the changes recommended by Califano are:

- Consolidating Titles III, V, and VII and channeling all funds through the network of state and area agencies on aging, while continuing to award funds to states on a formula basis;

- Calling on state governments to begin developing new advocacy systems to protect the rights of older people;

- Establishing a separate title for training programs and for the support of multi-disciplinary centers of gerontology;

- Establishing a separate title focusing on research and development;

- Requiring state plans for services to the elderly be done every three years, instead of every year;

- Establishing a priority in the act for the needs of low income and minority elderly persons.

Such changes would be consistent with NACo's position regarding reauthorization of the act, especially the consolidation of the titles and extension of the planning process from year to year to three-year cycles.



HEW Secretary Joseph Califano

Furthermore, in response to a question by Rep. Mario Biaggi (D-N.Y.), Califano said that the Administration would consider eliminating the four priority services (transportation, legal services, home care services and home repair services) under Title III to allow more flexibility in determining local programs. NACo supports the elimination of these priority services.

Califano went on to say that studies are being conducted on the

impact of related aging programs to determine what major changes needed in the delivery of all services by HEW and other departments. Areas under review include medical homemaker services, reform and deinstitutionalization of nursing home residents.

When these studies are completed, Califano said, HEW will be prepared to recommend significant changes to the Older Americans Act and related programs.

COUNTIES TALK WITH FEDS

Future Services for Aging

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegates to NACo's Legislative Conference who were interested in services to the elderly got a future glimpse of what to expect from both the federal government and from counties.

Short-term changes in federal policies and programs emerged at a March 12 meeting of NACo's Welfare and Social Services Steering Committee and at a March 14 workshop on aging services.

At the steering committee meeting, Doris Dealaman, chosen freeholder, Somerset County, N.J., outlined NACo's efforts to reform the Older Americans Act.

Dealaman said NACo is advocating three major changes:

- Consolidation of all the act's titles into a comprehensive block grant for the elderly;

- Elimination of "priority services" now required under Title III; and

- A mandated representation of local elected officials or their designated representatives on the policy-making boards of area agencies on aging.

Dealaman added that NACo wants 50 percent of the boards to be elected officials or their representatives. An alternative solution, she explained, would be public sponsorship of area agencies on aging, similar to the way the CETA program is organized.

BELITA HERON, a staff member of the House subcommittee on select education, noted at the aging services workshop that chances seemed good that NACo's position would be made part of the new legislation.

"NACo," she told the audience, "is on the same wavelength with other organizations" that have testified before the subcommittee, which is

responsible for reauthorizing the act. (See related article above.)

Heron mentioned several other subjects that concern counties. The subcommittee, she said, had received "thousands and thousands of letters" protesting a cutback in funding for the Retired Senior Volunteers Program (RSVP).

She added that, in a poll, most RSVP directors favored keeping the program in ACTION, instead of moving it under the jurisdiction of the Administration on Aging.

Long-term federal commitment to services to the elderly was the subject of a March 13 presentation by Robert C. Blancato and Thomas McDonald, Ph.D., who are, respectively, the majority and minority staff directors of the U.S. House Select Committee on Aging, subcommittee on federal, state, and community services.

Blancato said that the committee is conducting three field hearings on "Public Planning and the Future of Aging," and that two hearings have been completed.

McDonald explained the purpose of the hearings: "to create a comprehensive model of aging services that describes the responsibilities of the federal, state, county, and local governments in the structure of services to the elderly."

ALL SERVICES that affect the elderly are being investigated, including housing, transportation, and health care, he said.

McDonald cited two important interim findings: the need to prepare for changes in the elderly themselves (for example, tomorrow's elderly will be much more educated than today's elderly) and the need to resolve ethical questions behind life-extending

medical practices.

"We need to turn the government's approach around," McDonald concluded, "from sight to foresight. We must be planning for the future."

Most of the session centered discussion by a committee of elected and appointed county officials are advising NACo's Research and Planning Committee on the two-year research project.

Phil Jones, an Aging Program research associate, described a committee a tentative agency designed to help five counties take long-term planning for the elderly. He also described preliminary results of some background work on the project.

A PHONE SURVEY of counties across the nation has been conducted to determine patterns of county involvement with the elderly. A list of literature about services to the elderly is also being undertaken.

Among the participants in the discussion were: Doris Dealaman, advisory committee chairperson; Commissioner John "Chubby" well, Jefferson County, Pa.; Commissioner Eugene Erway, Potter County, Pa.; Commissioner Maxine Wayne County, Mich.; Robert bridge, administrator of the Mack County (N.H.) nursing and hospitals; Paul Tazbir, commissioner, Rensselaer County (N.Y.) Department of Aging; and Adelard, commissioner, Nassau County (N.Y.) Department of Senior Affairs.

Joseph D'Elia, commissioner of Sau County (N.Y.) Department of Social Services, was represented by Joseph Rieher. Jim Bartell, a legislative aide, attended for San County (Calif.) Supervisor Bates.

WINGSPREAD MEETING

Coalition for Jail Reform

Continued from page 1

THE TONE FOR the conference was established by Norval Morris, dean of the University of Chicago Law School, in his opening address. He labeled the problem as "a persistence over the years of the squalor of the jail," and called the local jail "a national disgrace." Morris, who came to the conference after three days in Butler Federal Prison in North Carolina, urged the groups to form a coalition because all other methods to bring about change in jails have failed.

The jail, Morris noted, is the focal point of a medical, sociological and psychological malaise. He urged that alcoholics, mentally retarded persons and children, whom he termed the "unfortunate and wretched of the world," be diverted from the traditional jail setting. At the same time, the law school head stated that the problem of jail overcrowding is linked to court delays, plea-bargaining and sentencing.

The problems cited by Morris were expounded upon by Milton Rector, president of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, who stated that jail overcrowding is symptomatic of other problems in the criminal justice system.

A coalition, Rector declared, should focus on people and not jails, and particularly should focus upon

diverting people from jails. He recommended neighborhood conflict resolution, expansion of police citation, reallocation of funds for diversion and alternative sanctions to jail sentences.

In follow-up speeches, Madeleine Crohn, director of the Pretrial Services Resource Center, noted that "this country has one of the highest per capita incarceration rates in the world," and Leo Plante, superintendent of the McClean County (Ill.) jail, said that corrections personnel don't want alcoholics, domestic violators, witnesses, drug-addicts, and debtors incarcerated.

THE REV. VIRGINIA Mackey, a founder of the New York State Coalition on Criminal Justice, provided a spirited yet realistic framework for discussing a coalition. Calling an ad hoc approach to coalition building critical, she admonished the leaders to provide equal access without requiring equal involvement in the coalition. Internal communication, she observed, is essential to coalition success.

Mackey explained that coalitions are possible even among organizations with wide philosophical differences. By reaching basic consensus, limiting objectives and shunning ideology, a coalition, Mackey observed, forms a supportive community for the organizations involved.

No new major federal, financial assistance for local jails was the message heard Feb. 27 by the conferees in a speech from Patricia Wald, an assistant attorney general. She urged those seeking court reform and those seeking jail reform to work together as the two problems are bound together. However, she did announce that federal standards for local jails would be released within a month.

As Wald urged the formation of a coalition, she reminded the participants of the enormity of their task: "Our jails and pretrial systems, generally the responsibility of the local and city and county authorities, now bear the managerial, financial, and, more importantly, the human brunt of the criminal justice system."

THE NEXT day the focus of the coalition shifted to jail conditions and the role of standards for improving those conditions. Sheriff Ken Preadmore of Ingham County, Mich. called jails "the garbage can of the court system" and asked other groups to work with local sheriffs to improve jail conditions. His view was echoed by Joe Ingle of the Southern Coalition on Jails and Prisons, who noted that standards should be humane for prisoners.

Although panelists presented different viewpoints on an approach to standards, there was agreement that standards are vital to the improvement of jail conditions.

Throughout the conference, which was held Feb. 26-March 1, participants defined the issues a coalition should focus on and developed a schedule of future activities, which includes composition of an overall statement of purpose, compilation of each organization's existing policy statements on corrections, and the development of background papers on the major issues.

In the interim, the five Wingspread convenors will serve as an Agenda Committee with NACo acting as the coordinating agency. A meeting of all interested organizations at the Jail Crisis Assembly in Minneapolis this May should mark the beginning of coalition efforts.

—Rod O'Connor
NACoR

Conference Registration

To take advantage of the conference advance registration fee, a personal check, county voucher or equivalent must accompany this registration form; make check payable to: National Association of Counties Research Foundation

All advance conference registration fees must be postmarked by May 1, 1978. After May 1, registrations will be at the on-site rate at the hotel. (no registrations by phone)

Refunds of the registration fee will be made if cancellation is necessary, provided that written notice is postmarked no later than May 5.

Conference registration fees: ☐ \$75 advance ☐ \$95 on-site

Please Print:

Name _____

County _____ Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel. (____) _____

Hotel reservation request: Radisson Hotel

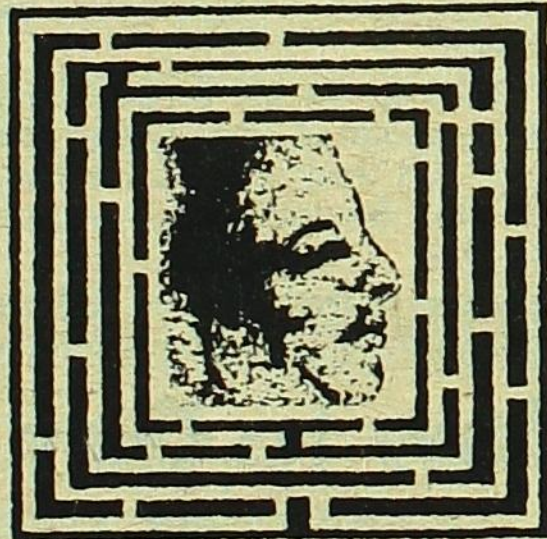
Occupant's name(s) _____

☐ Single \$30 ☐ Double \$36

Arrival Date/Time _____ Departure Date/Time _____

Suites available on request \$75-\$200

Send pre-registration and hotel reservation to:
National Association of Counties Research Foundation
Second National Assembly on the Jail Crisis
1735 New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006

Second National
Assembly on the
Jail Crisis

May 17-20, 1978
Minneapolis, Minnesota

The American Jail in Transition

Topics include:

- Who should be in jail?
- Role of elected officials in jail reform
- Function of standards
- Improvement in medical care, education, vocational training, recreation, furloughs
- Federal financial and technical assistance
- Intergovernmental solutions.
- Program needs of incarcerated women
- Diversion of children from jail
- Legal issues: prisoner rights, liability of appointed & elected officials
- New approaches to jail management
- Technical assistance booths staffed by national organizations.

photo above, Patricia M. Wald, assistant attorney general for Legislative Affairs, chats with Robert B. ... chairman of the American Association's Commission on Correctional Facilities and Services, ... delivering her address, "The Federal Role in Jail Reform." ... conferees spent four days re- ... at the Frank Lloyd Wright- ... ed home, Wingspread, dis- ... the issues a national coali- ... on jail reform should address. ... note at right shows that discussion continued through mealtime.



NACPRO MEETING

Ways to Stretch Recreation Funds

WASHINGTON, D.C.—"Recreation is not taken as seriously as it should be," Margaret Maguire, deputy director of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service told county park and recreation officials recently. This is true even though Americans have more leisure time than ever before, and feel that recreation opportunities are a key determinant of the quality of life.

Maguire, speaking to the Board of Directors of the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO), felt that the low priority for leisure services is one of the major constraints facing recreation efforts in the coming years.

"When budgets are cut," she said, "parks and recreation programs are the first to be affected. However, at any level of funding, you can do creative things if you have the right approach."

CREATIVITY IN action may become the theme of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, formerly the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. The agency recently acquired the historic preservation functions of the National Park Service, making HCRS the federal focus for recreation, and for national and historic conservation.

HCRS is placing great importance on coordination with other federal agencies which administer programs that stretch the local recreation dollar. For example, the recently amended Clean Water Act requires recreation and open space opportunities to be considered in the design of sewage treatment systems and in water quality management. HCRS will be working with the Environmental Protection Agency in encouraging such projects as bicycle paths over interceptor sewer routes.

The agency is also working to get the arts and housing constituencies here in Washington more involved with recreation issues. Also, the Economic Development Administration, Maguire reports, is becoming more concerned with park and recreation services as a potential avenue for jobs in a community.

One federal program, the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, however, came under heavy criticism from NACPRO. County park services are too heavily dependent on the federally-funded labor force provided by CETA, board members said. This is supported by the recent National Urban Recreation Study, which reported

that CETA has had some unintended adverse consequences on the quality of service provided.

THE NACPRO Board was briefed on the Administration's newly established National Heritage Program. This legislation would provide a National Register of Natural Areas similar to that now existing for historic preservation. The bill has not yet been introduced in Congress. NACo's Land Use Steering Committee has adopted a resolution which supports the goals of the program.

The group also discussed the recent National Urban Recreation Study, which may provide the impetus for a new funding program to rehabilitate decaying urban parks. Maguire told NACPRO that the federal government realizes pouring capital funds into the rehabilitation of city parks is not the solution.

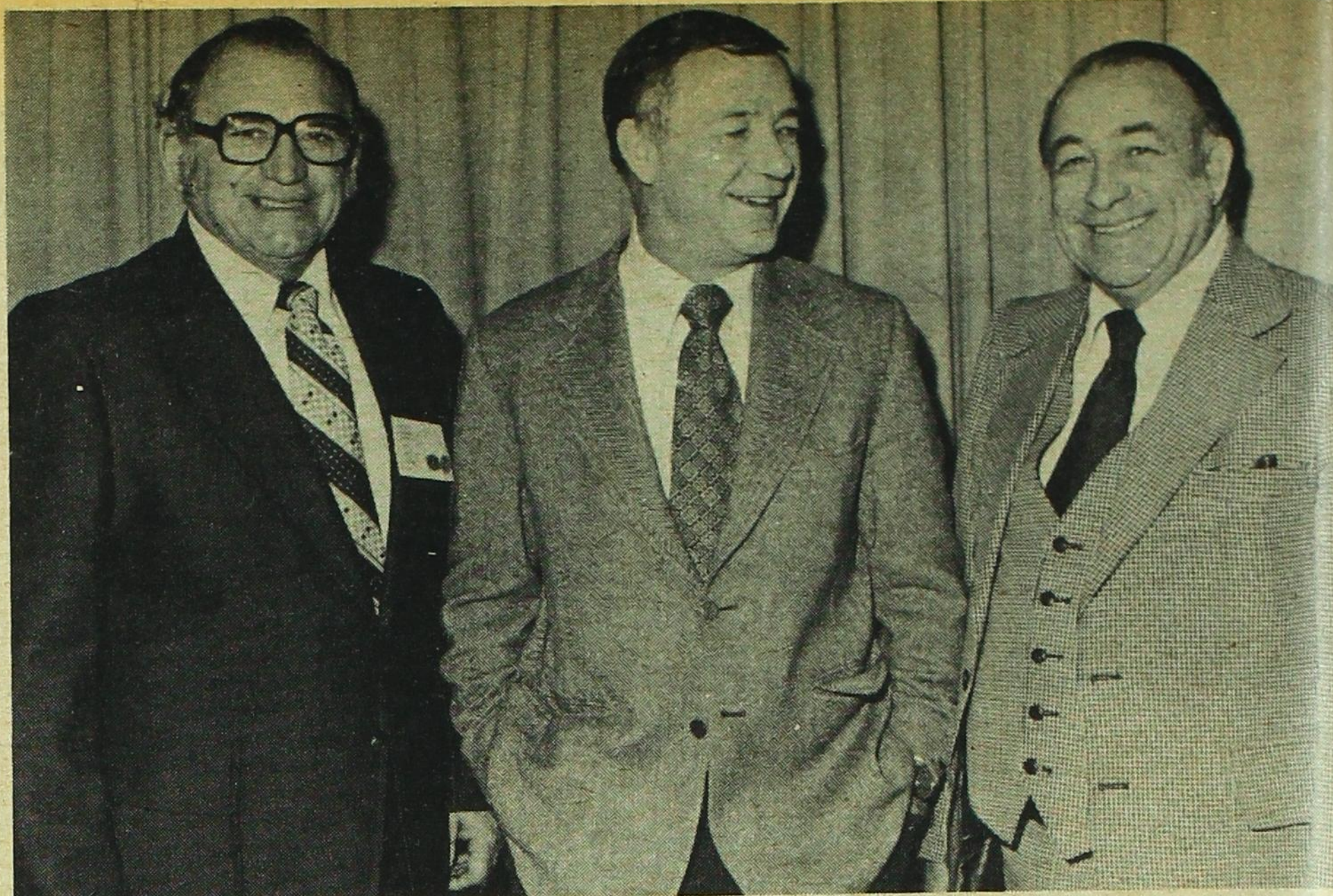
What is needed, she said, is a strategy that would provide planning assistance, as well as money for capital expenses, so that localities can address the problem on an integrated long-term basis.

In other business, the NACPRO Board shared its concerns about the appropriations level for state and local government of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the principal source of federal funds for park development and acquisition. The board also voted on the nominations for NACPRO's annual awards to be presented at NACo's Annual Conference in Atlanta, July 8-13.

KEY WATER DEADLINE: June 26

The Clean Water Act of 1977 allows the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to grant compliance extensions to publicly owned sewage treatment works which have not met the water quality compliance deadline of July 1, 1977. Your treatment plant may be eligible for an extension until 1983, whether or not you now hold an Enforcement Compliance Schedule Letter (ECSL) from EPA.

To qualify for an extension, you must apply before June 26. No extensions will be granted for applications received after that date. For more information, contact your EPA regional office or Mary Reardon, NACoR staff, 202/785-9577. Remember: Extensions may be requested only until June 26.



Frank Gregg, new director for the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of Interior, meets with Jack Petitti, right, president, NACo Western Interstate Region, and commissioner, Clark County, Nev.; and George Buzianis, left, chairman of NACo Public Lands Steering Committee and commissioner, Tooele County, Utah.

PUBLIC LANDS DISCUSSED

WIR Board Meets Gregg

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Frank Gregg, the new director for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Department of Interior, was introduced to members of the NACo Western Interstate Region Board of Directors this month at a special meeting during the NACo Legislative Conference.

The meeting was arranged by Jack Petitti, president of the NACo WIR, and Tim Monroe, assistant BLM director for legislation and plans, to give western county officials a chance to meet and exchange informal views on public land management issues.

Following the meeting, both Petitti and NACo Public Lands Steering Committee chairman George Buzianis, commissioner from Tooele County, Utah, praised Gregg for his openness and commitment to listen to the views of county officials prior to management decisions affecting these lands.

Gregg, 52, a native of Denver, Colo., was confirmed last month as BLM director by the Senate. For the past 10 years he served as chairman of the New England Basins Commission, a joint federal-state agency established to coordinate the federal and state natural resource programs in that region. He is the first director of BLM to be appointed by the President subject to confirmation by the Senate.

He succeeds Curtis J. Berklund who was appointed assistant to the secretary and land utilization adviser by Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus in June 1977.

Gregg served from 1965 to 1967 as vice president of the Conservation

Foundation, a natural resource policy study organization, and from 1963 to 1965 as executive director of the Citizens Committee for the Outdoor Recreation Resources Commission Report.

From 1961 to 1963 he was assistant to former Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall and from 1961 to 1961 he was executive director of the Izaak Walton League of America. He began his career in 1951 as director of the Colorado Outdoor Magazine for the Colorado Game and Fish Department.

In announcing the appointment Andrus said "Frank Gregg is a nationally recognized leader in natural resource conservation management. He has a good reputation for managing natural resource programs objectively to achieve a sound balance which is essential to the future of the West."

His position is particularly important to western counties since he carries forward the major task of implementing the Federal Land Management and Management Act, passed by Congress in 1976.

BLM has jurisdiction over more than 450 million acres of land owned by the federal government, most of the West, and this act requires coordination of BLM land management plans with state and local use plans.

How to Get Best Sewage Buy for Your Community

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Local and state governments spend over \$1.5 billion a year on sewage treatment. Federal government adds another \$5 billion.

The funding has often been channeled into technologies that local government decision-makers and citizens have trouble understanding. As a result, communities have ended up with sewage treatment systems they do not understand or cannot pay for.

TO HELP the people involved learn how to direct the spending program in ways that conserve tax money, water, energy and land, two conferences are being sponsored by the Clean Water Fund and Environmental Policy Institute (private non-profit groups), in cooperation with the National Science Foundation.

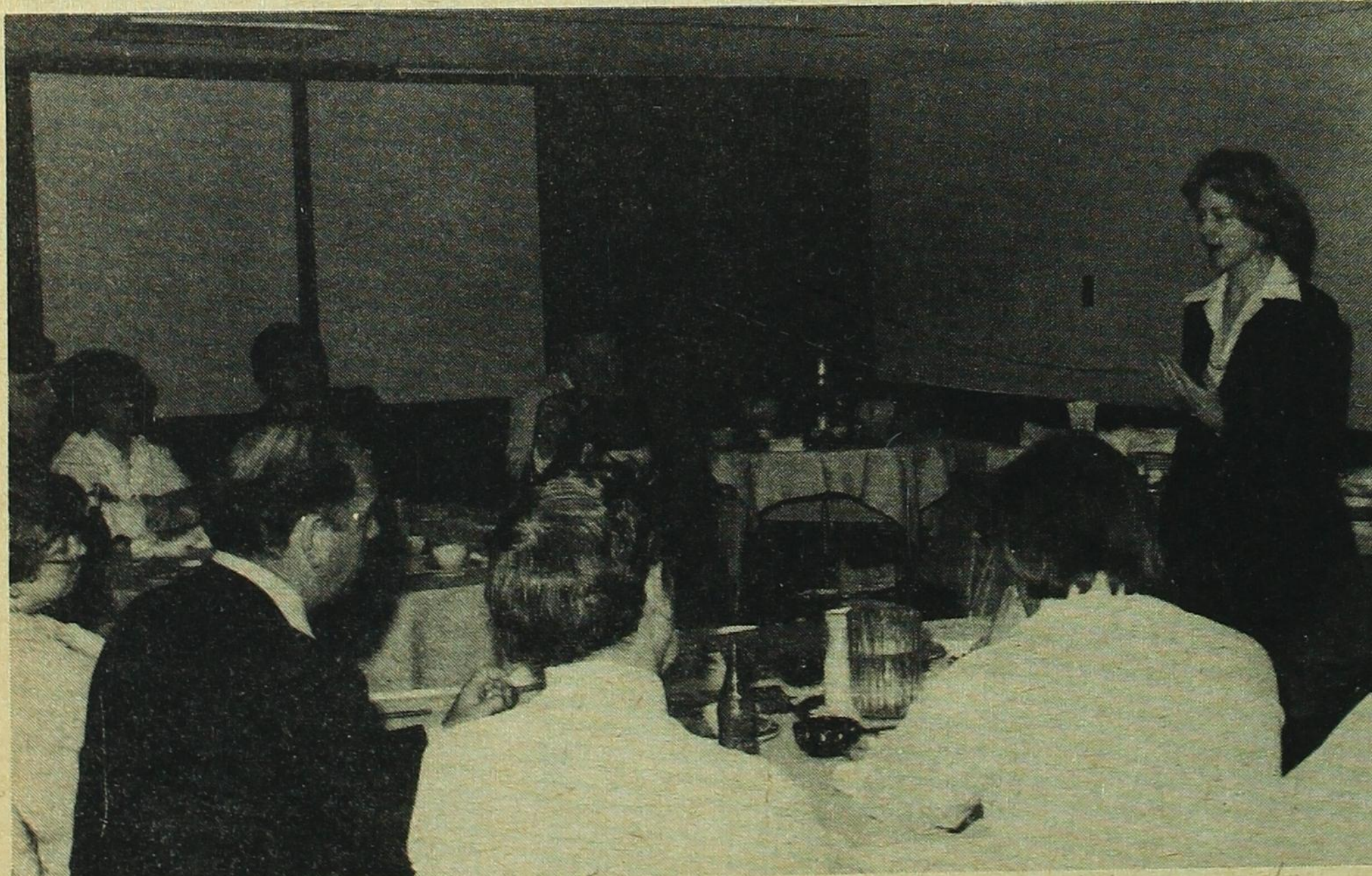
Entitled "Shopping for Sewage Treatment: How to Get the Best Bargain for Your Community or Home," the seminars will focus on the difference in available methods

and technologies for treatment systems, the costs and benefits of various alternatives, and the regulatory maze leading to water funding.

Resource for the conference include some of the nation's top experts in water pollution control, key decision makers from every level of government.

The conference is designed for a nontechnical person who, either a local official or a citizen, is interested in getting the best sewage treatment bargain appropriate for the community.

CONFERENCE DATES: April 28-30 in Washington, D.C.; June 2-4 in Denver, Colo. Because of limited space, registration is limited. If you are interested in attending, know someone in your community who could benefit, call or write immediately: Clean Water Fund, 1600 G Street N.W., Room 200, Washington, D.C. 20005, 202/462-1196.



Margaret Maguire, deputy director, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, addresses a NACPRO meeting.

Santa Cruz Plans 'Sun Day' Events

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, Calif.—Why is the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors asking its citizens to mail empty beer cans to President Carter? Is it a protest against "Billy Beer?" Or is it a political stunt to encourage the President to drink more California wine?

No, the mail-in is not intended to promote more beer drinking among the White House staff, nor is it a subtle hint that beer should be sold by interstate mail. Rather, it is part of a "Sun Day" effort, which will be celebrated nationally on Wednesday, May 3. Elected officials from all levels of government have joined consumers, environmentalists, businesses, and labor organizations to promote the increased use of solar energy throughout America.

SANTA CRUZ County is planning several activities to promote solar energy within the community during the May 3 celebration, but the beer can mail-in is perhaps the most intriguing. According to Supervisor Gary Patton, the county hopes that a million beer cans will be mailed to the White House by May 3. Local communities are participating by promoting the campaign and making solar collectors of their own.

So, what's the point? To convert the White House to solar energy, of course. Beer cans (or any other can, provided that it is aluminum) can be used as an integral part of the solar storage system after they are painted a flat black and covered with a sheet of glazing.

The idea is a popular one that has been successfully used in numerous

Western homes and is being actively promoted by several "appropriate technology" and environmental groups. (Appropriate technology refers to small-scale projects which use locally available natural resources. The projects are relatively inexpensive and are designed for small communities; they include solar, wind, cogeneration, and small resource recovery projects.)

For example, York County, Pa. used the concept in building its nature center for which technical vocational students provided most of the labor. Santa Cruz also plans to use an aluminum can system to heat a warehouse for the county's home weatherization program and to retrofit a county veterans' service building.

THE IDEA FOR a beer can mail-in came from Harvey Eder, the solar education specialist for Santa Cruz County. Eder works primarily with the Community Action Board (CAB) to educate citizens on the use of solar energy and to coordinate human service needs with energy conservation projects. A major effort of the county CAB is the solar education program for Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) employees.

The CETA workers are enrolled in a solar program at the Cabrillo Community College where they learn how to make and install solar collectors. "By making and installing solar collectors," says Eder, "we are recycling valuable resources, saving energy, and creating fulfilling jobs with a good future."



PROMOTING SOLAR ENERGY—Supervisor Gary Patton, right, and solar education specialist Harvey Eder discuss Santa Cruz County's (Calif.) beer can mail-in to the White House. When painted flat black on one side and covered with a sheet of glazing, aluminum cans will reach temperatures over 300° F. They can absorb sufficient heat to be used as an important part of a solar energy system.

"A solar heating system made out of beer cans is not 100 percent efficient," explains Eder. "However, in this part of the country, depending on the other materials and design of the solar system, the aluminum can system can average 60 percent efficiency—which is a pretty good cost-benefit ratio, when you think of the low cost involved."

THE CAN campaign, according to Patton, is "just gimmicky enough to

work. We hope to encourage President Carter to take solar energy very seriously, and we also hope that every individual citizen who mails a beer can to the President will spend some time to learn about solar energy."

Santa Cruz County is also planning tours, symposiums, and seminars to "Solar Week." Fifty businesses are already involved in the effort, and many more companies

and citizens groups are beginning to plan activities.

The NACo Board of Directors, during its meeting at the Western Region District Conference in Riverside County, Calif. on Feb. 8, passed a resolution supporting Sun Day and encouraging county governments to participate in activities to promote public awareness of solar energy. In passing the resolution, NACo became the first public interest group to support "Sun Day."

NACo/Council of Intergovernmental Coordinators (CIC) First Annual Eastern Federal Aid Briefing Conference Rivermont Holiday Inn Shelby County Memphis, Tennessee April 26-28, 1978

Featuring workshops and speakers on federal aid reform, urban policy, future of LEAA funding, legislative update, rural programs, CETA reauthorization, transportation, community development, arts and humanities, older Americans, energy programs and others.

For more information, contact Linda Church, CIC staff liaison, 202/785-9577.

April 25—CIC Training Program Day

One-day "Crash Training Course" for new grant coordinators. Taught by "senior" grant coordinators in county governments. Registration on first come, first served basis. Class size is limited. Additional registration charge of \$10.

All trainees must register for the conference as well. **You must receive written confirmation of your participation in class.** Only NACo member county participants will be accepted for the training program.

Conference Registration (Make checks payable to NACo)

State _____ County _____		Registration Fees	
Delegate Name		Member	\$70.00
First _____ Last _____		Non-member	\$100.00
Title _____		Training Course	\$10.00
Mailing Address		Trainees must register for both conference and training course	
City _____ State _____ Zip _____			
Hotel _____			
Phone _____			
(Area Code) _____ Number _____			

A check, money order, or county voucher must accompany your registration)

Your Registration must be received by April 11.

Send Conference Registration Form To:

Ms. Claudette Wilson
Associate Director
Shelby County Intergovernmental Coordination Department
160 North Main Street, Suite 946
Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Hotel Reservation Form

NACo/CIC Hotel Reservation Form
April 26-28, 1978
Federal Aid Briefing
Holiday Inn Rivermont

Please print

Organization _____

Name _____ Phone() _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of Meeting _____ Arrival Date _____ AM _____ PM _____ Departure Date _____

Send Reservation Form To: Holiday Inn Rivermont
200 West Georgia
Memphis, Tenn. 38103
(901) 525-0121

Please make the following reservation:

Single at \$24/night _____
Double at \$30/night _____
Guaranteed _____



Commissioner Mary Keith Ballantine of Jackson County, Mich., a member of the citizens paperwork committee, discusses future agenda with Mark Littler, former vice chairman of the Commission on Federal Paperwork and retired senior partner of Arthur Anderson and Co.

Citizens Paperwork Panel Starts Work

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Mary Keith Ballantine, commissioner of Jackson County, Mich., is one of seven persons elected to the executive committee of the newly formed Citizens Committee on Paperwork Reduction.

The group seeks action on pending recommendations of the two-year Commission on Federal Paperwork which went out of existence earlier this year after calling for 810 actions to eliminate needless federal paperwork.

The commission estimated that federal paperwork requirements cost the American public more than \$100 billion a year.

Ballantine commented, "There is an unbelievably high level of cynicism on the local level" concerning paperwork reduction. "This is the last chance to show real commitment to eliminate unnecessary paperwork," she said.

NACo has participated in the commission's work and provided temporary office space for the citizens group until a permanent site was established.

During the initial meeting of the citizens committee, Ballantine said a report by Carolyn Warner, Arizona state superintendent of public instruction, offered proof of what can be done: Arizona has reduced paperwork in the field of education by 58.9 percent.

According to Ballantine, the citizens committee has initially adopted four major objectives:

- Encourage implementation of the Paperwork Commission's recommendations;
- Coordinate activities of all interested groups;
- Support and disseminate research on better paperwork control;
- Influence legislation and regulations to reduce paperwork and red tape.

Ballantine announced that a kit prepared by the commission can be obtained by writing: Paperwork Action Kit, Citizens Committee on Paperwork Reduction, 1050 17th St., N.W., Suite 270, Washington, D.C. 20036.

New Strike Manual Will Benefit Public Employers

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Strikes by public sector employees, once relatively rare, have increased dramatically throughout this decade. Experiences of public employers across the country who have faced these strikes or strike threats indicate that a comprehensive strike contingency plan is essential to successfully dealing with such situations.

The National Public Employer Labor Relations Association (NPELRA), a membership organization of top public sector labor relations practitioners, has published "Maintaining Public Services: the NPELRA Strike Planning Manual" to assist public jurisdictions of all types prepare detailed and effective contingency plans.

Drawing upon their own expertise as labor relations legal counselors, as well as on the collective strike experiences of NPELRA's membership, authors James Baird, R. Theodore Clark Jr., and Michael J. Rybick have provided the practical information that will enable any public employer to design a realistic, individually tailored strike contingency plan in a relatively short period of time.

THE STRIKE MANUAL is divided into four major sections. Part I deals with the issues involved in

strike preparation, and provides checklists and guidelines on the essential aspects of strike plans. Part II discusses the legal issues which must be considered in the event of a strike, including countermeasures and employee discipline. Part III contains actual strike plans now in use or ready for immediate use in various cities and counties. Part IV is a bibliography of other strike plan publications.

For further information on this publication, or to order, contact Carol Wikoff, National Public Employer Labor Relations Association, 1140 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 201, Washington, D.C.

Strike manual author James Baird will be one of a number of distinguished speakers at NACo's Fourth Annual Labor Relations Conference for Counties, scheduled for April 30-May 2 in Tampa, Fla.

The deadline for advance registrations is April 20. Special room rates are guaranteed to all delegates whose reservations are postmarked by April 7. After that date, available rooms will be assigned on a first-come basis.

For further information about the conference, call Deborah Shulman, Ann Simpson or Bruce Talley at 202/785-9577.

Potter Emphasizes County Role in Solid Waste Disposal

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Senate subcommittee on resource protection began a round of oversight hearings on the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 last week. Neal Potter, councilman, Montgomery County, Md. and NACo subcommittee chairman for solid waste, testified.

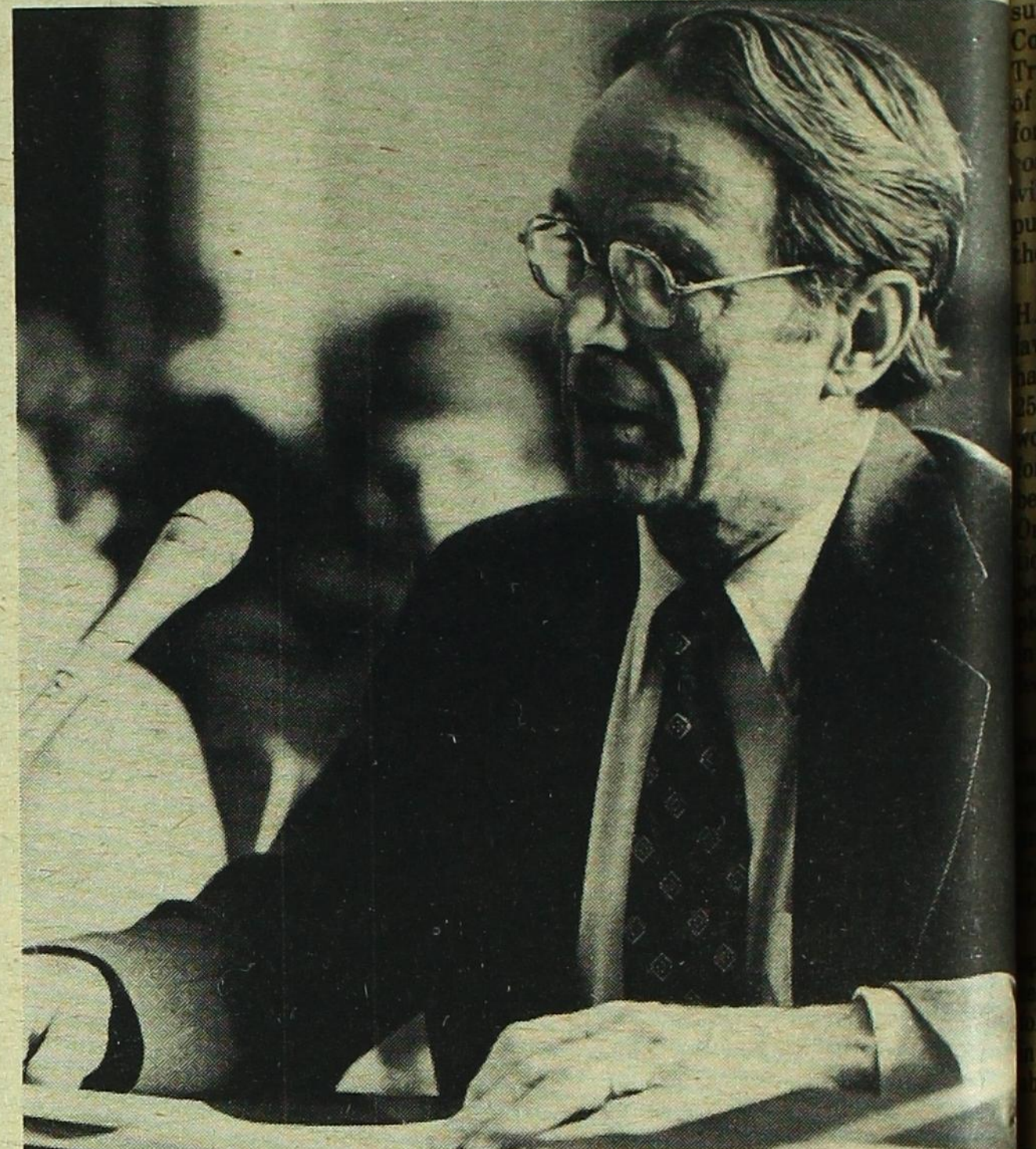
Potter told the subcommittee that NACo supported an additional \$30 million for state and local assistance to develop and implement solid waste and resource recovery programs. The Administration has requested only \$11.2 million for fiscal '79 for such grants, down from the current \$14 million.

THE COUNCILMAN reminded the subcommittee that 70 percent of counties answering a 1975 survey indicated that they had some responsibility for solid waste disposal and that 75 percent of all transfers of the solid waste function from cities have gone to county governments.

He urged that emphasis shift from development of state planning to the funding of county and other local government program development and management efforts.

States must establish a program for inventorying and closing open dumps, which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates will take more than the one year provided for in the 1976 act. Potter called for a phased approach to enforcement of the open dump closing requirement until state inventories are completed.

He stated: "In keeping with Congress' intent that enforcement against open dumps not begin until the state inventory is completed, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act should be amended. ... This would avoid enforcement actions in cases in which compliance with EPA criteria is not known. Such a change is the



Montgomery County (Md.) councilman Neal Potter testifies in Senate.

only way to achieve an orderly transition from open dumps to environmentally sound landfills as envisioned by RCRA."

WIDESPREAD confusion appears to exist at the state and local level over federal requirements for designating solid waste planning agencies, and limited evidence suggests that states have not taken the initiative to meet with local elected officials

and adequately involve them in the process for jointly determining state, local, and areawide responsibilities.

Potter called on EPA to closely monitor the actions of each state to determine the manner in which the joint determination of such responsibilities is taking place.

Hearings are expected to continue in May and focus on specific problems facing local, state and federal agencies.

Workshop on the Council-Elected Executive Form of County Government

Shelby County, Memphis, Tenn.
April 6-7, 1978

Program Highlights:

- Legislative/executive relationships: the process of government
- Problems in transition: organizing and settling in
- Varieties in county-executive counties

Conference registration fee is \$55: • at the conference
• no advance registration

Make hotel reservations with the Holiday Inn Rivermont, 901/525-0121

No deposit required, but identify participant as part of the "County Modernization Conference"

CETA Issues Analysis: Retirement

One of the most explosive issues surrounding reenactment of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) is the question of whether CETA funds may be used for retirement coverage. If these funds are disallowed, many counties face a choice of abandoning their public service jobs or subsidizing them from local tax revenues.

The Administration's bill (S. 2570/11086) proposes to write into the current regulations, which had to be waived in more than 12 states. The bill, in Section 121(o), would prohibit the use of CETA funds for retirement coverage "unless such benefits accrue to the participant." On the other hand, according to Section 122(1), participants must receive benefits equal to those of other employees and they may only be placed in job categories that include non-regularly financed jobs.

Labor Department officials suggest that this apparent contradiction be resolved by holding potential retirement contributions in escrow at such time as CETA enrollees transfer to permanent employee status or "vest" in the system. But pension officials in most states oppose that notion. Insurance systems of all kinds, they say, would be excluded from equal benefit provisions until they were personally to benefit.

In most cases where CETA workers are enrolled in retirement systems, participation is directed by an authority outside the direct control of CETA prime sponsors.

TWENTY-SEVEN states' attorneys general have certified that state law would have to change before public employers participating in CETA could legally comply with the current regulations. These states are: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Delaware, South Carolina and West Virginia also cannot comply but have not yet gone on record.

The regulations can be waived this year only in cases where state law prohibits compliance. Counties bound by something other than state law such as union contracts, independent pension boards or school system retirement systems, are already caught in a box:

- Employee groups are disturbed and could sue if CETA participants currently part of a retirement system are suddenly withdrawn.

- Pension boards will not accept

the "escrow account" solution approved by the federal agency.

- The Labor Department says it will disallow the cost of CETA participants' coverage unless "benefits accrue to the participant."

Clearly, CETA funds are primarily intended for jobs and training, not retirement. A number of counties and states attempted to avoid the conflicts outlined above by establishing a separate employee classification for CETA enrollees outside the retirement system. Thus, there was no problem with equal benefit provisions.

If Section 122(1) of the Administration's bill goes into effect, that solution to the dilemma will be denied.

New York state law violates that provision of the bill. So do state laws

in Idaho, Oregon and Wisconsin. Counties across the country would be forced to abandon separate "trainee" of temporary job classifications set up for CETA enrollees.

FOR CETA participants already on board and enrolled in retirement systems, there is no real solution.

Once a CETA participant has been hired with understanding that his employer will make payments into a retirement fund on his behalf, no local, state or federal law can change this situation without effectively changing a condition of his employment and violating rules of personal contract law.

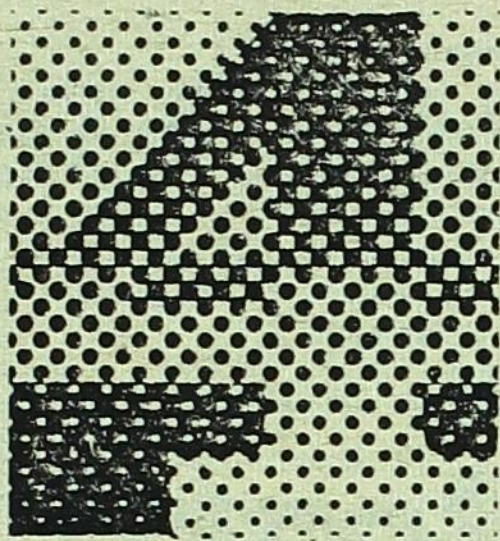
Thus, state and local retirement boards have ruled that CETA participants who have become members of state and local retirement systems cannot be withdrawn unless their

employment is terminated. When CETA funds are no longer available to pay for coverage, some other source of funds must be found.

Since federal equal benefit provisions required CETA enrollees' participation in the first place, it seems reasonable that the federal government has an obligation to see its commitment through and solve this dilemma.

For new enrollees, perhaps the experts can work out a solution that provides coverage only for those who "vest." They could accept the cost of wider coverage in order to eliminate CETA-only job categories. If CETA funds cannot be used for retirement, however, then retirement should be excluded from equal benefit provisions and separate job categories must be allowed.

—Jon Weintraub



The Fourth Annual Labor Relations Conference

April 30-May 2, 1978
Host International Hotel
Tampa, Florida

Delegates can both preregister for the conference and reserve hotel space by completing this form and returning it to NACo.

Conference registration fees must accompany this form before hotel reservations will be processed. **Enclose check, official county purchase order or equivalent.** No conference registrations will be made by phone.

All Advance Conference Registrations must be postmarked no later than April 20. After the 20th, you must register on-site at the hotel and there will be an additional \$5 charge per registrant.

Refunds of the registration fee will be made if cancellation is necessary, **provided that written notice is postmarked no later than April 17.**

A two-track program is planned to meet the needs of both novices (Track I) and experienced practitioners (Track II). To help us plan the function space, please indicate whether you are primarily interested in either:

☐ Track I ☐ Track II

Conference registration fees: (Make payable to NACo) \$95 Advance \$100 On-Site

Conference Registration

Please print:

Name _____ (Last) _____ (First) _____ (Initial)

County _____ Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tele. (____) _____

Hotel Reservation (Host International)

Special conference rates will be guaranteed to all delegates whose reservations are **postmarked by April 7.** After that date, available housing will be assigned on a **first come basis.**

Please print:

Occupant's Name _____ Single \$28

*Arrival Date/Time _____ Departure Date/Time _____

Occupants' Names _____ Double \$34

*Arrival Date/Time _____ Departure Date/Time _____

Reg. check/P.O. # _____ **FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**
Amount \$ _____ Housing Deposit Check # _____
Amount \$ _____

Send preregistration and hotel reservations to: **National Association of Counties—Labor Relations Conference, 1735 New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.** For further housing information call NACo Conference Registration Center, 703/471-6180.

***Hotel reservations are only held until 6 p.m. on arrival day. If you anticipate arriving near or after that time, list a credit card name and number below to guarantee your first night reservation, or send one night's deposit.**

House Panel Issues Pension Plan Study

WASHINGTON, D.C.—After more than two years of studying federal, state and local public employee retirement systems, the Task Force on Welfare and Pension Plans, the subcommittee on labor standards, chaired by Rep. John H. Dent (Pa.), approved a report March 15. The study, authorized under Public Law 93-406, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), includes an analysis of the adequacy of existing levels of participation, vesting and financing arrangements; existing fiduciary standards; and the need for federal legislation and standards covering state and local plans. A comprehensive study of governmental plans was conducted covering 96 percent of all pension plan participants.

According to the report, the national securities and other capital markets are heavily influenced by the investment of over \$115 billion in assets that are currently held by public employee retirement systems of state and local governments. The manner in which the assets of state and local government retirement systems are invested in the future will have a direct effect on well-being and economic security

of the 13 million current participants as well as future participants in these plans.

The provisions and significance of these retirement systems have not been fully comprehended by plan participants, plan officials, or other governmental officials, and taxpayers generally. As a result, the report states, the current regulatory framework applicable to these retirement systems does not adequately protect the vital national interests which are involved.

The entire report is currently being printed and will be available for public review in April.

It is anticipated that legislation regulating state and local plans will be introduced by the subcommittee this summer. A complete analysis of the report will appear in upcoming issues of *County News*.

The NACo Pension Task Force, chaired by Supervisor Michael Mett, Milwaukee County, Wis., will review the legislation along with the NACo staff and make appropriate recommendations to the Labor Management Relations Policy Steering Committee. For more details contact Ann Simpson, legislative representative at NACo headquarters.

MA TAKES LOOK

County Hospital Future?

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The future of county hospitals will be the item on the agenda of the seven-annual National Conference on General Hospitals.

According to Alex McMahon, president, American Hospital Association (AHA), the health care delivery system is being challenged by change and congressional mandate to hold hospital costs down to a manageable level.

Sponsored by AHA's Public General Hospital section, the conference will be held in New York City, May 5-6 at the New York Sheraton.

The purpose of the conference is to discuss "the challenge of change"

from a variety of viewpoints—including those of the hospital administration, the trustee, the county chief executive officer or county governing board chairman, the physician, and the patient, said McMahon.

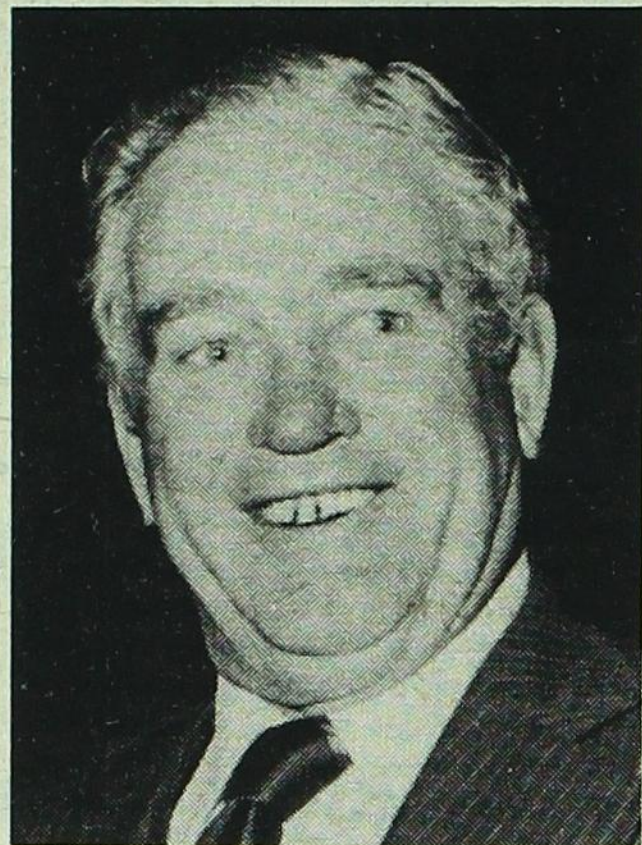
Participants will examine current demands and learn from a panel of specialists ways in which hospital management can respond to those demands.

The fee is \$110 per participant.

For more information about this program, contact: Susanne F. Batko, Director, Public-General Hospital Section, American Hospital Association, 840 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60611, 312/645-9675.



G.G. Norfleet, at right, commissioner of Highways, Montgomery County, Tenn., was incorrectly identified in *County News* last week as Judge Clyde McMahan. Norfleet is 2nd vice president of the Tennessee County Services Association. NACo apologizes for the mixup and also thanks all the sharp Tennessee county officials who called to alert us last week. The real Clyde McMahan, judge, Blount County, Tenn., is seen at right in the above picture with Senate Minority Leader Howard Baker.



Matter and Measure



3-R WORKSHOP

I am pleased to report a very successful workshop on design guides for federal-aid resurfacing, restoration and rehabilitation (3-R) projects. The workshop was held March 14, preceding the Mississippi Valley Conference of State Highway and Transportation Departments, St. Paul, Minn. Approximately 65 persons attended the half-day session, including five Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) representatives and 13 representatives from various state departments of transportation. Our county participants came from Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas and Ohio.

The purpose of the workshop was to provide FHWA with our suggestions for design criteria to include in the guides FHWA will develop. To achieve this purpose, we first had the benefit of discussion by federal, state and county panelists and then we divided into small workshop discussion groups to recommend design guides for FHWA's consideration.

The next NACE column will summarize the discussions and recommendations.

—Herbert O. Kloss

NACE North Central Region Vice President
Director of Transportation
Hennepin County, Minn.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECT NO. 43

FHWA will present Demonstration Project No. 43, Water Quality Monitoring, April 18-20, at the National Department of Transportation in Carson City.

The 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Amendments seek to eliminate the discharge of pollutants into streams by 1985. The demonstration project will provide participants with information to properly analyze highway impact on water quality and will demonstrate erosion control methods to reduce water pollution during highway construction.

For more information, contact Roy Weaver at 470-5318.

New Transit Bill Released

Continued from page 1

state's expenditures be on safety improvements. The Administration has proposed a \$200 million per year.

In general, the federal share is set at 80 percent for highway construction programs and 90 percent for safety programs.

The Howard bill would create a permanent traffic signalization program, formerly a demonstration program, to be authorized at \$75 million per year out of the trust fund. Similarly, the bill would change the carpool and vanpool program from a demonstration to a grant program

and permit the use of primary urban funds at an 80 percent federal match for purchase of work.

BRIDGES

Two billion dollars per year authorized for highway bridge replacement in Howard's bill, amount strongly requested by NACo. The bill specifies that no less than 20 percent or more than 30 percent of each state's bridge fund should be spent for projects to replace, in whole or in part, highway bridges located off the federal system.

The bill also requires the states inventory all highway bridges on the off the federal aid highway system and to classify them according to safety.

MASS TRANSIT

The Howard bill authorizes approximately \$4.4 billion to \$4.5 billion for each of the fiscal years, '79 to '82, and provides long-term authorizations of \$4.5 billion for each of the fiscal years '83 to '88. These proposed authorizations represent an increase over the \$3.14 billion currently authorized and the Administration bill, which proposes authorization levels from \$3.2 billion to \$3.5 billion for fiscal '79 to '82.

The new bill retains the current basic Section 3 discretionary grant categories and adds a rural assistance program. Categories are as follows: \$200 million for bus purchases; \$350 million for fixed rail rolling stock; \$650 million for modernization; \$600 million for new starts; and \$150 million for rural assistance.

The rural assistance program is areas less than 50,000 population would be available for capital and operating assistance. One-half of the \$150 million is earmarked for private intercity bus operating subsidies and the other half for local transportation programs. All programs are proposed to be funneled through local authorities.

The Section 5 program would contribute funds at the existing authorizations of \$850 million and \$900 million for fiscal '79 and '80 and provides an additional \$900 million for fiscal '81 and '82. Funds are proposed to be distributed based on the existing formula (1/2 population and 1/2 population density).

Additional Section 5 funds would be available for the 25 urban areas with populations of 1 million or more. For fiscal '79 to '82, \$250 million is authorized, 85 percent of the \$250 million earmarked to the 25 largest urban areas and 15 percent apportioned among all other urban areas.

The bill is expected to be marked up after Easter recess. Copies of the bill can be obtained from NACo.

Thomas Baker

Bulletin Board

1978 NACo Conference Schedule

April 6-7	County Modernization	Memphis, Tenn.	July 8-12	Annual Conference	Atlanta, Ga.
April 26-28	NACo/CIC Eastern Region Briefing	Memphis, Tenn.	Sept. 18-20	Taxation and Finance Clinic	Phoenix, Ariz.
April 20-May 2	Labor Management Conference	Tampa, Fla.	Oct. 29-Nov. 1	Urban County Community Development Conference	To be announced
May 17-20	Jail Crisis Conference	Minneapolis, Minn.			

March 28-30: Utah Association of Counties, annual convention, Little America Convention Center, Salt Lake City. Jack Tanner, 801/364-3583.

April 2-4: Association of Counties and Regions of Ontario, spring forum, Toronto Airport Hilton, Missauga. Sheila Richardson, 416/593-1477.

April 4-6: Iowa State Association of Counties, spring school, Downtown Holiday Inn, Des Moines. Donald Cleveland, 515/244-7181.

April 13-14: Urban Counties Council of Illinois, annual conference, Springfield. Carol King, 312/346-7500.

April 14: South Carolina Association of Counties, spring meeting, Pine Island. Russell B. "Bo" Shetterly, 803/252-7255.

April 16-18: Association of County Commissioners of Georgia, annual convention, Jekyll Island. Hill Healan, 404/522-5022.

April 16-19: New York State Association of Counties, spring seminar, Hotel Grossinger, Liberty. Edwin Crawford, 518/465-1473.

April 18-20: Illinois Association of County Board Members, spring convention, Holiday Inn, Decatur. Paul Bitschenauer, 217/528-5331.

May 3-4: Kansas Association of Counties, second annual county commissioners conference, Hilton Inn, Wichita. Fred Allen, 913/233-2271.

May 4-5: New Mexico Association of Counties, annual meeting, Sallyport Inn, Roswell. Philip Larrogoite, 505/983-2101.

June 4-6: West Virginia Assessors Association, annual meeting, Ramada Inn, Wheeling.

June 6-8: North and East Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association, annual conference, Hol-

iday Inn, Lufkin. Clyde C. Anderson, 915/566-9795.

June 7-9: Association of County Commissioners of Alabama, 50th annual convention, Hyatt House, Birmingham. O.H. "Buddy" Sharpless, 205/263-7594.

June 7-9: West Virginia Association of County and Circuit Clerks, annual meeting, Holiday Inn, Huntington.

June 11-14: Montana Association of Counties, annual meeting, LeHavre Motor Inn. LeHavre. R. Dean Zinnecker, 406/442-5209.

June 13-16: Washington State Association of County Auditors, Washington State Association of County Treasurers, joint annual meeting, Ocean Shores. Lyle T. Watson, 206/943-1812.

June 27-29: South Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association, annual conference, Civic Center, Del Rio. Clyde C. Anderson, 915/566-9795.

June 27-30: Washington State Association of Counties, annual conference, Greenwood Inn, Olympia. Jack Rogers, 206/491-7100.

June 28-30: New Jersey Association of Counties, annual conference, Hyatt House, Cherry Hill. Jack Lamping, 609/394-3467.

July 6-8: Mississippi Association of Supervisors, annual meeting, Ramada Inn Coliseum, Jackson. A.J. Foster, 601/353-2741.

July 6-8: Maryland Association of Counties, annual summer conference, Convention Center, Ocean City. Joseph J. Murnane, 301/268-5884.

July 30-Aug. 3: Pennsylvania State Association of County Commissioners, 92nd annual convention, Sheraton Hotel, Philadelphia. Jim Allen, 717/232-7554.

Aug. 2-5: South Carolina Association of Counties, annual meeting, Landmark Resort Hotel, Myrtle

Beach. Russell B. "Bo" Shetterly, 803/252-7255.

Aug. 6-9: County Commissioners Association of Ohio, summer convention, Sawmill Creek Lodge, Huron. A.R. Maslar, 614/221-5627.

Aug. 13-15: West Virginia Association of County Commissioners, annual meeting, Cliffside Motel, Charles Town.

Aug. 16-17: Texas Association of Counties, first annual conference, Hyatt Regency, Dallas. Sam Clonts, 512/478-8753.

Aug. 24-27: North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, annual meeting, Inn on the Plaza, Asheville. C. Ronald Aycock, 919/832-2893.

Sept. 4-6: Michigan Association of Counties, annual summer conference, Grand Hotel, Mackinaw Island. A. Barry McGuire, 517/372-5374.

Sept. 8-10: Maine County Commissioners Association, annual meeting, Red Coach Convention Center, Howard Johnson's, Portland. Roland D. Landry, 207/782-6131.

Sept. 17-19: South Dakota Association of County Commissioners, 64th annual conference, Ramada Inn, Sioux Falls. Neal Strand, 605/224-8654.

Sept. 17-20: New York State Association of Counties, fall seminar, Hotel Concord, Kiamesha Lake. Edwin Crawford, 518/465-1473.

Sept. 24-27: Wisconsin County Boards Association, annual meeting, Pioneer Inn, Oshkosh. Robert Mortensen, 608/266-6480.

Sept. 27-30: State Association of County Commissioners of Florida, 49th annual conference, Bahia Mar Hotel Yachting Center, Fort Lauderdale. John Thomas, 904/224-3148.

Oct. 4-6: Washington Association of County Officials, annual meeting, Thunderbird Inn, Yakima. Lyle Watson, 206/943-1812.

Oct. 11-13: Iowa State Association of Counties, Annual School of Instruction, Hilton Inn, Des Moines. Donald Cleveland, 515/244-7181.

Oct. 17-19: County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas, 56th annual conference, Moody Conference Center and Galvez and Flagship Hotels, Galveston. Clyde C. Anderson, 915/566-9795.

Oct. 25-27: Tennessee County Services Association, annual meeting, New Opryland Convention Center, Nashville. Ralph J. Harris, 615/242-5591.

Nov. 10-12: Alaska Municipal League, annual meeting, Anchorage. Jim Rolle, 907/586-6526.

Nov. 12-14: Kansas Association of Counties, annual meeting, Wichita. Fred Allen, 913/233-2271.

Nov. 12-14: The Association of Minnesota Counties, annual meeting, Radisson Hotel, St. Paul. James Shipman, 612/353-2741.

Nov. 12-14: Virginia Association of Counties, annual meeting, George R. Long, 804/973-7557.

Nov. 14-17: County Supervisors Association of California, annual meeting, San Bernardino. Richard Watson, 916/441-4011.

Nov. 15-17: Kentucky Association of Counties, annual meeting, Drawbridge Inn, Ft. Mitchell. Fred Creasey, 502/223-7668.

Nov. 15-17: Association of Oregon Counties, annual conference. P. Jerry Orrick, 503/585-8351.

Dec. 3-6: County Commissioners Association of Ohio, winter convention, Neil House, Columbus. A.R. Maslar, 614/221-5627.

Dec. 5-7: Nebraska Association of County Officials, annual meeting, Hilton Inn, Omaha. Gerald Stromer, 402/474-3328.

Dec. 5-10: Colorado Counties, Inc., annual meeting, Hilton Inn, Denver. Clark Buckler, 303/861-4076.

FULTON COUNTY ATLANTA!

NACo 43rd Annual Conference and Educational Exhibits July 8-13, 1978 at the Georgia World Congress Center

Delegates to NACo's 1978 Annual Conference can preregister for the conference and reserve hotel space by completing this form and **returning it to NACo**. Check if this is your **first NACo Annual Conference**. ☐

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Conference registration fees must accompany this form before hotel reservations will be processed. **Enclose check, official county voucher or equivalent. No conference registrations will be made by phone.**

Refunds of the registration fee will be made if cancellation is necessary, provided that **written notice is postmarked no later than June 30, 1978.**

Conference registration fees:

\$95 member \$125 nonmember \$50 spouse \$30 youth (Make check payable to NACo)

Name _____ County _____
 Title _____ Telephone (____) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Spouse, if registering _____ Age of youths attending _____

HOUSING RESERVATION:

Special conference rates will be guaranteed to all delegates whose reservations are sent to the NACo office and are postmarked by June 24. After that date, available housing will be assigned on a first-come basis.

Hotel	Single	Double/Twin	Suites	Room type
1. Atlanta Hilton (NACTFO)	\$36-55	\$48-67	\$120 up	single _____ twin _____ double _____ suite _____
2. Hyatt Regency Atlanta (NACE)	35-49	45-59	110 up	Hotel preference
3. Marriott Motor	35-50	45-60	125 up	1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____
4. Omni International (SOLD OUT)				
5. Peachtree Center Plaza (NACRC)	36-49	46-59	100 up	

Names _____
 Arrival date/time _____ Departure date/time _____

Credit card company and number: _____

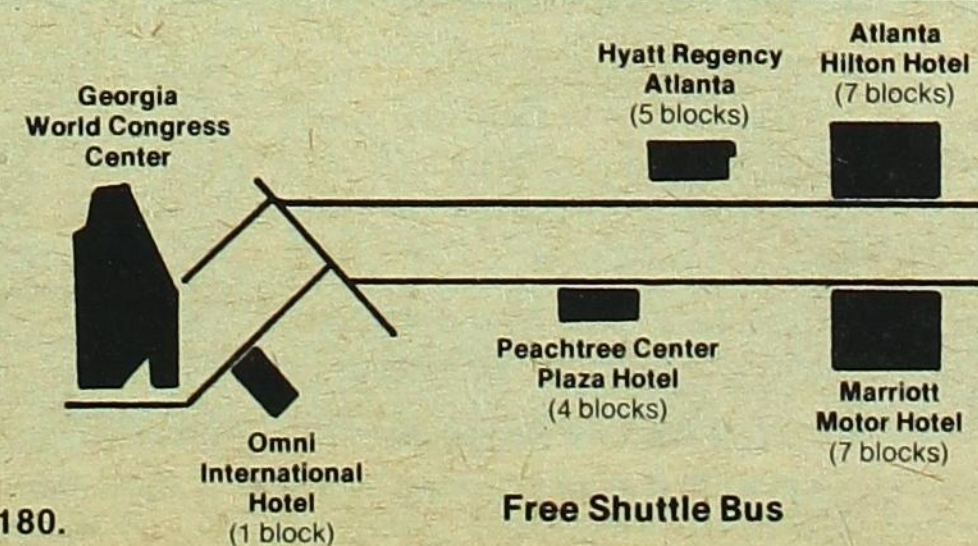
No room deposit required. Rooms may be guaranteed by credit card number.

☐ Check here if you have a housing related disability.

Send preregistration and hotel reservation to:

National Association of Counties
 Annual Conference
 1735 New York Ave., N.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20006

For further housing information, call NACo Conference Registration Center: (703) 471-6180.



Washington Briefs

• **Fiscal Relief.** Payment of \$187 million of fiscal relief for welfare costs (provided in Social Security bill) are held up pending legal determination by Appropriations Committees.

• **Welfare Reform.** Comprehensive bill (H.R. 10950) reported out by House welfare reform subcommittee. No date set for consideration by House Ways and Means Committee. Chairman Al Ullman (D-Ore.) has introduced incremental bill (H.R. 10711). Senate committees holding hearings; no date set for markup. Sens. Howard Baker (R-Tenn.), Henry Bellmon (R-Okla.), Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn.), and John Danforth (R-Mo.) have introduced incremental bill in Senate.

• **Title XX.** H.R. 10833 now has 118 cosponsors in the House. The bill will increase the social services funding ceiling to \$2.9 billion in fiscal '79; \$3.15 billion in '80; and \$3.45 billion in '81. Both the House and Senate have included the \$200 million funding increase in their '79 budget targets for social services. See page 3.

• **H.R. 7200.** The Public Assistance Amendments bill should come to the Senate floor in late April. The House passed the bill last year and the Senate Finance Committee has modified it. Final Senate action has been delayed by the Panama Canal debate.

• **Older Americans Act.** HEW Secretary Joseph Califano testified before the House subcommittee on select education March 20 on the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act. Sen. Pete Domenici (R-N.M.) has introduced S. 2609 to amend the Older Americans Act. See page 4.

• **Lobby Registration.** House Judiciary Committee reported H.R. 8494 requiring associations of state, county and city officials to register under the bill, but exempting federal lobbyists. NACo strongly opposes registration.

• **CETA Reenactment.** The House subcommittee on employment opportunities will mark up H.R. 11086 beginning April 11. The Senate subcommittee on employment, poverty and migratory labor will mark up S. 2570 beginning April 24. County officials should contact members of Congress about problems in the bill. See pages 2, 3, and 9.

• **Full Employment.** The House passed H.R. 50, the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act, by a vote of 257 to 152.

• **Agricultural Land Retention Act.** H.R. 11122 has been reported to the full House Agriculture Committee and is likely to be considered this spring. Sen. Warren Magnuson (D-Wash.) introduced a similar bill last week. The bills would establish a national commission composed of county, state, and federal officials, and the farming community to identify factors contributing to the loss of prime agricultural land. They would also establish a program of demonstration grants to encourage the development of state and local retention programs.

• **National Energy Policy Act.** House and Senate conferees are close to a detailed agreement on natural gas pricing and deregulation. Conferees have yet to reach agreement on the well head oil tax and other tax provisions designed to encourage conservation and production. Consideration is being given in some quarters of Capitol Hill to separating the conservation, conversion, and utility rate reform provisions of the omnibus bill and approving them this spring if an agreement on the new energy taxes cannot be reached.

• **Transportation.** Rep. Jim Howard (D-N.J.) introduced the Surface Transportation Act of 1978. The bill provides authorizations for highway, bridges, safety and mass transportation programs. See page 1. The Senate continues hearings on S. 2440 (highways). Last week witnesses before the Senate transportation subcommittee called for programs to maintain and upgrade roads in coal-producing areas and allocations of \$250 million for potholes.

• **LEAA.** Hearings have begun on LEAA fiscal '79 appropriation requests by the House Appropriations subcommittee on state, justice, commerce, and judiciary. NACo will testify April 11. Senate Appropriations subcommittee will begin its hearings on '79 appropriation requests April 21. NACo to testify April 28. Efforts are underway to reinstate \$20 million cut in Part B planning funds.

• **Health Planning.** The House Commerce health subcommittee reported out H.R. 11488, the extension of the Health Planning and Resources Development Act. The bill includes provisions to expand the authority of public Health Service Agency (HSA) boards. The bill will be marked up by the full Commerce Committee after the Easter recess. The Senate Human Resources health subcommittee has not yet acted on its version (S. 2410) of the health planning bill.

• **Countercyclical Assistance.** Rep. William Moorhead (D-Pa.) has introduced H.R. 11298 to extend the countercyclical antirecession assistance program for five quarters. The legislation would also reduce the national trigger to 5.5 percent. The current program, which will expire Sept. 30, phases out when national unemployment for a calendar quarter (or the last month of a quarter) falls below 6 percent. The current unemployment rate is 6.1 percent. The Administration has recommended a one-year extension at \$1.04 billion.

• **Municipal Bonds Underwriting.** Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.) introduced S. 2674 to amend Glass-Steagall Act to authorize national banks to underwrite local government securities issues. Bill is companion to H.R. 7485, introduced by Rep. Gladys Spellman (D-Md.). Legislation would increase competition for municipal securities and result in savings to local governments. No date for hearings.

• **Taxable Bond Option.** The Administration is proposing a taxable bond option (TBO) as part of its tax reform package. Request of \$7.1 billion would offer local governments the option of issuing tax-exempt bonds or taxable bonds with federal government to subsidize increased interest rates. Counties oppose the TBO.

• **Rural Development Act.** House approved H.R. 8315, Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, to increase water and waste disposal authorization from \$300 million to \$400 million and to raise grant amount from 50 percent to 75 percent of project cost. Subcommittee also deleted provision that would have increased interest rates on rural development loans.

• **Rural Housing Authorization.** House and Senate subcommittees on rural housing will conduct hearings on reauthorizing Farmers Home Administration rural housing programs and establishing fiscal '79 budget targets. Subcommittee to consider incorporating provisions of Rural Housing Act of 1977 into housing authorizations. NACo testified in House March 23.

• **Supplemental Appropriations for Rural Development.** House Appropriations subcommittee on agriculture expected to meet shortly on supplemental appropriations for current '78 fiscal year. NACo urging subcommittee to provide additional \$50 million of unexpended authorizations for water and waste disposal grants to help meet current waiting list exceeding \$650 million nationwide.

• **Rural Community Development Act.** Reps. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) and Richard Nolan (D-Minn.) have introduced the Rural Community Development Act (H.R. 9983) to establish a separate community development program for nonmetropolitan areas with a population below 20,000. NACo testified March 22.

• **Public Liability.** Senate Judiciary subcommittee on the Constitution is considering S. 35, Civil Rights Improvement Act of 1977. NACo opposes provision in legislation that would eliminate immunity of state and local governments to suits brought under Section 1983 of the Civil Rights Act of 1971. Hearings postponed.

• **Municipal Securities Disclosure.** Sen. Harrison Williams (D-N.J.) has introduced S. 2339, Municipal Securities Full Disclosure Act of 1977. Bill would mandate preparation of annual report and distribution documents prior to issuing municipal bonds. No hearings scheduled yet.

• **USDA Reorganization.** Sens. George McGovern (D-S.D.) and Robert Dole (R-Kan.) have introduced S. 2519 to create a new, expanded Department of Food, Agriculture and Renewable Resources incorporating the functions and responsibilities now located in other departments. Senate Agriculture subcommittee on nutrition to conduct hearings in spring.

• **Rural Development Policy.** Reps. Richard Nolan (D-Minn.) and Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) have introduced H.R. 10885, the Rural Development Policy Act of 1978. The legislation strengthens the rural development functions of USDA, mandates coordination of rural development programs of all agencies, increases planning grant from \$10 million to \$50 million, and changes the names of FmHA to the Farm and Rural Development Administration and USDA to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. NACo testified March 22.

• **Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Appropriations.** House subcommittee for Treasury, postal service and general government, chaired by Rep. Tom Steed (D-Okla.), will hold hearings on the fiscal '79 IPA appropriations April 7. The Senate subcommittee, chaired by Sen. Lawton Chiles (D-Fla.), will hold hearings April 4. NACo will testify before both subcommittees urging Congress to appropriate not less than \$30 million for fiscal '79. This represents \$10 million above the Administration's budget request.

• **Federal Regulations of Pension Systems.** The House Pension Task Force approved the reauthorized under ERISA covering comprehensive study of federal state and local pension plans March 15. See page 9.

• **Reporting and Tax Liability for Public Pension Plans.** The Senate subcommittee on private pension plans and employee fringe benefits, chaired by Sen. Lloyd Bentsen (Tex.), held hearings on S. 1587, introduced by Sen. Richard Storer (Fla.) which would correct an administrative interpretation by the Internal Revenue Service regarding reporting requirements and tax liabilities of public pension plans under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). NACo testified in support of S. 1587. Subcommittee has made no date plans for further hearings or markup. Rep. Jack Cunningham (D-Wis.) has introduced an identical bill, 9118, in the House and no date has been scheduled by the Ways and Means Committee for hearings.

• **Deferred Compensation Programs.** The Senate subcommittee on pension plans and employee benefits held hearings on S. 2627, introduced by Sen. Mike Gravel (Alaska). Most testimony presented was in favor of S. 2627. No hearings have been scheduled by the House Ways and Means Committee on S. 10746 or H.R. 10893. The three are aimed at reversing a proper Treasury ruling published in Feb. 3 *Federal Register* which would affect the tax benefits of employees participating in deferred compensation programs in state and local governments. The NACo board directors adopted a resolution supporting these bills at the 1978 Legislative Conference. Counties should contact members of the House Ways and Means Committee, the Senate Finance Committee and their congressional delegations to present their views on this program. Contact Ann M. Simpson at NACo for information.

• **Social Security Financing.** House and Senate subcommittees have begun hearings on proposals to revise the financing of the Social Security Amendments of 1977, proved by the President in December. The legislation would pay some of the costs of Social Security through general revenues, rather than higher payroll taxes. They are gaining support in Congress. Recently Rep. James Burke (Mass.), chairman of the House subcommittee on Social Security, Rep. Barber Conable (R-N.Y.) stated that Congress is likely to pass legislation this year using general revenue funding.

The Latest Forecast for Washington and Vicinity



For a quick reading of the nation's capital... the climate in Congress... the atmosphere in the White House... and which way the wind's blowing on county issues...

Call NACo's Hotline
(202) 785-9591

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Omar Bureson, Tex.
Louis Stokes, Ohio
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Donald Fraser, Minn.
David R. Obey, Wis.
William Lehman, Fla.
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Joseph L. Fisher, Va.
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Joseph R. Biden Jr., Del.
J. Bennett Johnston Jr., La.
Wendell Anderson, Minn.
James Sasser, Tenn.

Henry Bellmon, Okla.
Robert Dole, Kan.
James A. McClure, Idaho
Peter V. Domenici, N.M.
S.I. Hayakawa, Calif.
H. John Heinz III, Pa.