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Vol. 10, No. 34

COUNTY NEWS

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

Aug. 28, 1978

NACo

Washington, D.C.

EEOC Chair Eleanor Holmes Norton at a press conference Aug. 22 to announce new federal employee selection guidelines.

RED TAPE STILL PROBLEM

Employee Selection Guidelines Settled

WASHINGTON, D.C.—After almost five years of effort, the federal government issued last week new Uniform Guidelines on Employee Selection Procedures replacing two competing sets of guidelines. For the first time, all employers covered by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, including county governments, are subject to the same regulations for selecting employees.

At a press conference on Aug. 22, Eleanor Holmes Norton, chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, announced agreement by the Civil Service Commission, the Justice Department, the Labor Department and the EEOC on the guidelines. She called the new regulations "a significant achievement of this Administration" and a "major step in clarifying obligations and rights that affect most employers and workers in this country."

The guidelines have been signed by Attorney General Griffin Bell, Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall, Civil Service Commission Chairman Alan Campbell, and Norton. The guidelines will also be applied by the Treasury Department's Office of Revenue Sharing under the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act of 1972 and by any other federal agency which adopts them.

THE NEW regulations are intended to protect the rights of workers to be hired and promoted on the basis of job-related standards and without regard to race, sex or national origin. They apply to tests and other selection procedures which are used as a basis for any employment decision. Under the guidelines, any selection procedure which adversely affects members of a particular race, sex or ethnic group must normally be validated by demonstrating the relation between the selection procedure and performance on the job.

The guidelines will be effective 30 days from the date of publication in the *Federal Register.*

NACo Labor-Management Relations Committee Chairman John Franke said that the new document represents "some improvement" over the July 13 draft version of the guidelines, but he expressed concern that it still imposes "unnecessarily costly and bureaucratic" recordkeeping and job analysis requirements on county governments. Franke, chairman of the Johnson County (Kan.) Board of Commissioners, and various other county officials had sharply criticized the July 13 draft version as "unacceptable technically and professionally."

As areas of improvement in the new document, Franke cited a simplified record-keeping option for employers with fewer than 100 employees and a section which provides that determinations of adverse impact of selection procedures need not be made for groups which constitute less than 2 percent of the relevant labor force. "There is no question that NACo and the other representatives of public employers have had some positive impact on the new document," he said.

See NEW, page 5

Senate Bridge Action

Amendment Boosts Local Authorizations

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Senate has approved an amendment by Sens. John Culver (D-Iowa) and John Heinz (R-Pa.) which raises the Senate's bridge replacement and rehabilitation program from $450 million to $525 million. Of this amount not more than 25 percent or less than 15 percent of each state's bridge funds will be expended on bridges off the federal-aid system.

The NACo-sponsored amendment originally called for increasing bridge authorizations to $600 million with 15 percent allocated to off-system bridges. However, after discussing the amendment with Sen. Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tex.), floor manager for the Senate Highway bill (S. 3073), authorization of $525 million was agreed to and the off-system allocation was increased to 25 percent.

Bridge action came as the full Senate approved the Senate highway bill (S. 3073). Additional Senate highway information will be reported in next week's *County News.*

Sen. Culver said that the $525 million amount represents a reasonable first step in providing an adequate funding level that hopefully can begin to reverse the nationwide bridge situation.

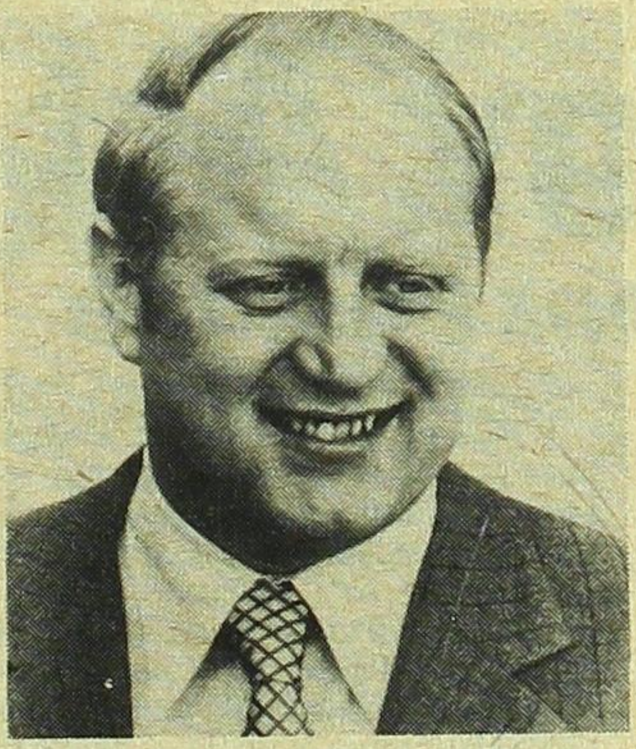
The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has identified 33,500 on-system bridges that are either structurally deficient or functionally obsolete. In a recent NACo survey more than 77,000 county bridges were identified as structurally obsolete along with 88,900 bridges functionally obsolete.

Culver called the current FHWA special bridge program at $180 million annually "a constructive and necessary first step in recognizing and attempting to stem the growing deterioration of bridges. However, it has not been successful in reversing the trend of more unsafe bridges at increasingly higher replacement costs."

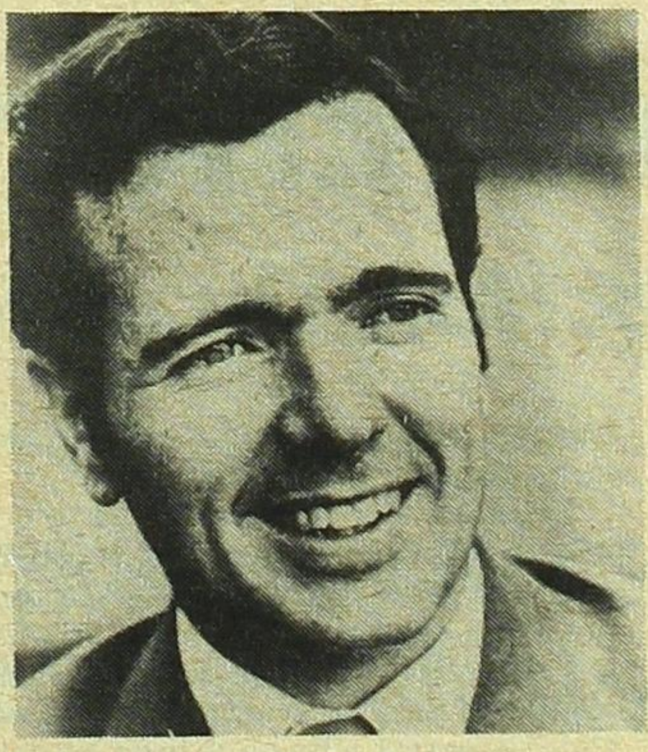
Over the past seven years, the existing federal bridge program has only been authorized at $835 million and made available for obligation by the states.

Sen. Heinz said that the minimum 15 percent earmarked to be expended for off-system bridges is to assure that smaller communities, especially rural communities, are going to obtain the money they need to repair and maintain their critically deficient bridges.

The House bill (H.R. 11733), which now contains $2 billion for bridges but is expected to be reduced to $1.5 billion, contains a minimum of 25 percent and maximum of 35 percent for off-system bridges. The bill is expected to go to the full House soon after Labor Day recess.



Culver



Heinz

NACo Wins on Lobby Bill in Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C.—"In our federal system, all elected officials are part of the governing process. I think it would be extremely unwise to treat such people the same as private sector lobbyists, who are responsible to no one at all."

With these words Sen. James Sasser (D-Tenn.) offered an amendment to exempt NACo and other associations of state and local elected officials from registration under the Senate's lobby disclosure bill, S. 2971.

The amendment was adopted 11-0 by the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee Aug. 17, culminating county officials' efforts to gain congressional recognition of state and local officials as partners in the governing process.

Under the present federal lobby registration act, state, county and city elected officials are specifically exempted from registration. In 1974, Judge Gerhard Gesell ruled in the case known as *Bradley v. Saxbe* that organizations of elected officials—like the elected officials themselves—must not be subject to federal lobby registration and reporting requirements. The judge ruled that the "voice of cities and counties ... will not adequately be heard unless ... they pool their limited finances ... (to bring) to the attention of Congress their proper official concerns on matters of public policy."

The Sasser amendment affirms the logic of that decision. The senator noted that "there should be no impediment whatsoever to the free flow of information and cooperation between all levels of government in our federal system."

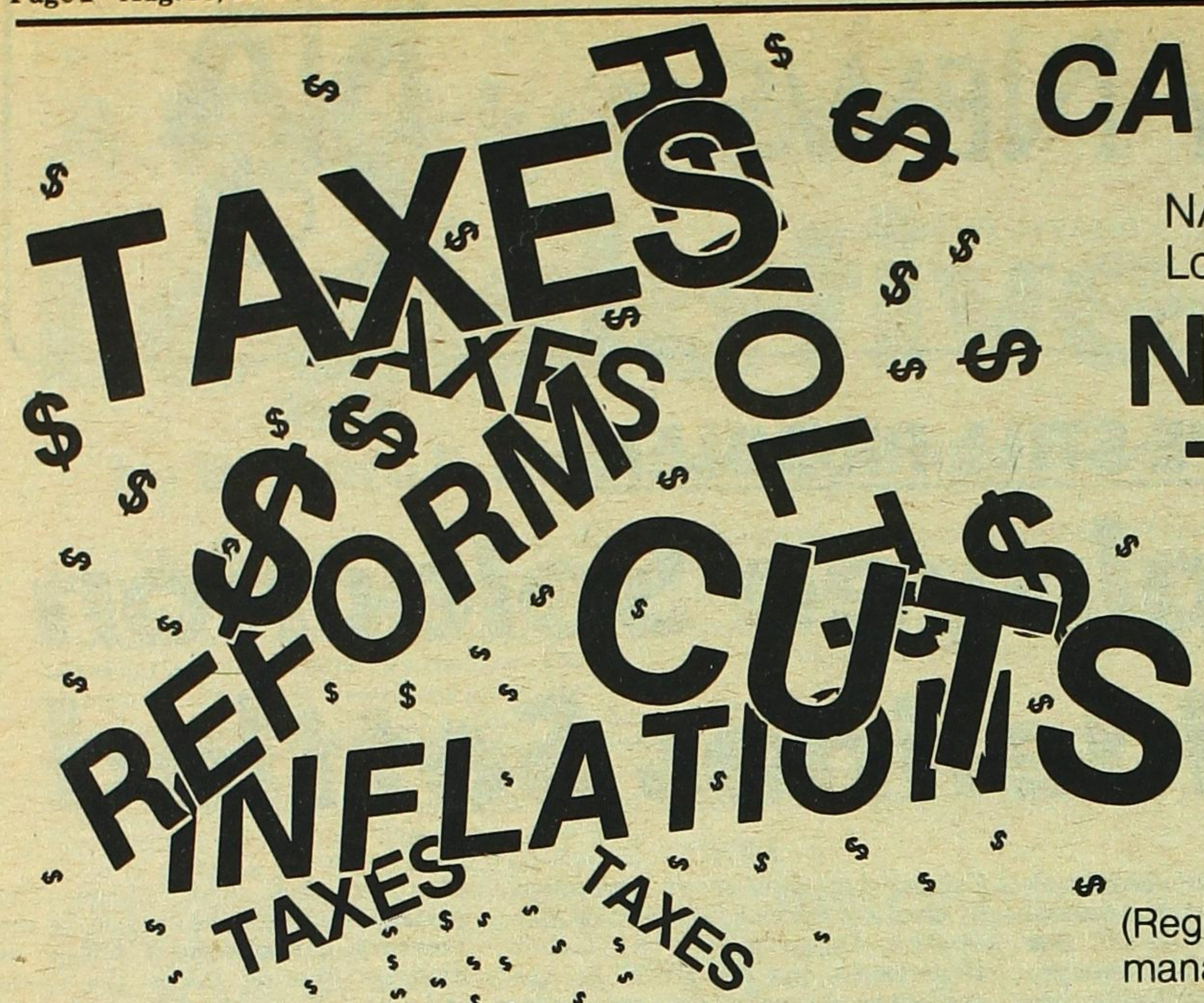
Sen. John Glenn (D-Ohio) said he welcomes discussion between himself and county officials' organizations from back home. "I get good views from these elected officials because they represent a broad spectrum of the population," he said in supporting the Sasser amendment. On Aug. 16 the County Commissioners Association of Ohio had unanimously passed a resolution urging Sen. Glenn to support the amendment.

Other senators who supported the amendment were: Chairman of the Committee Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn.); Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.); Edmund S. Muskie (D-Maine); Thomas Eagleton (D-Mo.); Lawton Chiles (D-Fla.); Sam Nunn (D-Ga.); Muriel Humphrey (D-Minn.); Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.); and Charles Mathias Jr. (R-Md.).

The House passed its version of the lobby bill (H.R. 8494) on April 26. The House bill, however, requires associations of elected officials to register. By a narrow margin of 211 to 197, the House defeated an amendment by Rep. Jim Santini (D-Nev.) that would have exempted NACo and others.

It is unclear as of this date whether the Senate Committee will reconvene to continue work on the lobby bill. There is a split in the committee between those supporting the stringent Ribicoff bill (S. 2971) and those supporting a series of amendments by Muskie and Mathias which are more acceptable to civil liberties, business and environmental groups. It appears that even if the Muskie-Mathias compromise is reported by the committee, no senator will agree to floor manage the legislation.

—Aliceann Fritschler



CAN YOU CUT COSTS?

NACo, the County Supervisors Association of California and Los Angeles County host the

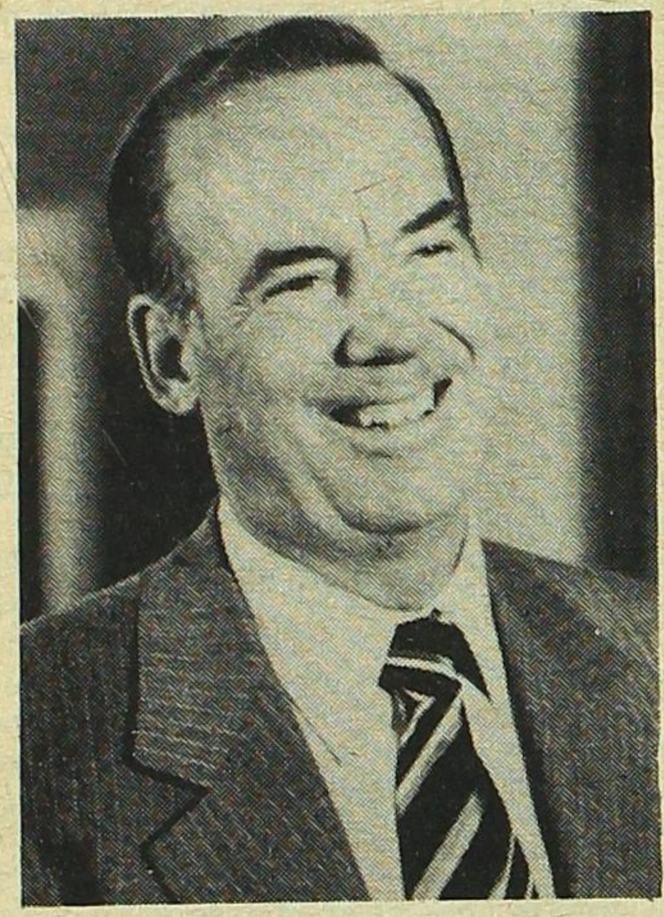
National Conference on Taxation and Finance Issues

Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles, Calif.
Sept. 17-19, 1978
To help counties solve fiscal problems

(Registration and reception Sept. 17; Tax reform programs Sept 18; Financial management Sept. 19.)

For more information, contact Elizabeth Rott, NACo staff, 202/785-9577.

We wish to express our appreciation to the U.S. Civil Service Commission Bureau of Intergovernmental Personnel Program which is sponsoring this meeting.


Younger

PROP 13 IN COURT

Younger to Brief Delegates

LOS ANGELES COUNTY—Evelle Younger, California attorney general and gubernatorial candidate, will address NACo's National Conference on Tax and Finance Issues of Local Government during a Tuesday morning plenary session Sept. 19 in Los Angeles. Younger, attorney general since 1970, will be discussing the legal and political ramifications of Proposition 13.

In state supreme court hearings last week in San Francisco to determine the constitutionality of Proposition 13, Younger argued that it would be "tragic" to overturn Proposition 13 because such a move "would represent nothing less than a statement by this court that the people of California have lost control of their government."

Younger went on to say, "In passing Proposition 13, the people did not vote to abolish government, but simply to reduce taxes."

Attorneys representing 27 school and community college districts, six northern California counties and the city of San Francisco appeared before the California supreme court to argue that Proposition 13 was "blatantly unconstitutional."

Their arguments were essentially:

- That Proposition 13 violates the one-subject rule and also represents a revision rather than an amendment to the state constitution, something that can be accomplished only through a constitutional convention.
- That it could endanger cities' and counties' ability to meet contractual obligations such as public retirement systems, in violation of a provision in the U.S. Constitution that prohibits impairment of contracts.

THE TAX and finance conference, scheduled for Sept. 17-19 at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, is directed at both the policy and the program areas of taxation and finance issues of local government. The following sessions have been scheduled for Sept. 18 and 19:

- Diversifying Revenue Sources,
- Equity Problems Associated with "Proposition 13" Assessments,
- Revenue and Expenditure Forecasting,
- Performance Evaluations,
- Pension Fund Administration,
- Financial Management Problems and Policy Solutions,
- Performance Measurements,
- Impact of Federal and State Mandates,
- Federal Financial Assistance.

ADDRESSING the opening general session will be Rep. James Corman (D-Calif.), who is chairman of the House subcommittee on public assistance and unemployment compensation.

Corman was the chief architect of the welfare reform package introduced during this session of Congress. Corman's proposal included shifting the financial burden of the welfare system from the local property taxes, which in some counties absorb as much as 50 percent of the county budget, to the federal government. Although no action was taken on the welfare reform package this year, Corman will introduce the bill again in the next Congress.

For more information on conference and hotel registration, contact Elizabeth Rott at NACo, 202/785-9577.

National Energy Act

Gas Pricing Section Threatens Passage

WASHINGTON, D.C.—As the legislative session draws rapidly to a close, passage of one of President Carter's priorities, the National Energy Act, appears uncertain.

At this writing, only one of the five sections of the Conference Report—coal conversion—has been passed by the Senate and none by the House. The coal conversion section will not be considered separately by the House and will have to await further Senate action.

The main problem concerns the natural gas pricing section of the Conference Report. While the conferees did agree on a compromise, the margin, particularly among the House conferees, was very slim. Since adoption of the compromise, support for the proposal has eroded. Coupled with a threatened filibuster in the Senate, defeat of the compromise appeared quite possible.

AT THE SAME time, the House leadership has refused to sign other parts of the Conference Report, thus blocking Senate action on any of the other sections. The reason for this move is the leadership's commitment to having the entire bill submitted to the House at one time and not allowing section by section consideration. In effect, passage of the remaining sections of the act is being held hostage until the Senate acts on the natural gas pricing section.

President Carter has moved to try and break this logjam and recently went on national television to announce a compromise which, according to the President, would ensure rapid and favorable action. However, those senators who have been threatening to filibuster the compromise, Sens. James Abourezk (D-S.D.) and Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio) have not modified their opposition. Consequently, if the Senate does not act on the natural gas compromise and if the House leadership sticks to its position there will be no National Energy Act passed this session.

The following is a summary of the status of the various sections of the bill.

- **Coal Conversion:** Compromise agreed to by conferees; passed the Senate; no action taken in the House.

- **Natural Gas Pricing:** Compromise agreed to by conferees now considered in trouble; no action taken by either House or Senate.

- **Utility Rate Reform:** Compromise agreed to by conferees but conference report not yet signed; no action taken by either House or Senate.

- **Energy Conservation:** Compromise agreed to by conferees but conference report not yet signed; no action taken by either House or Senate.

- **Energy Taxes:** Dead and all but buried. Conferees have no plans to meet in the foreseeable future; no action this session is likely.

In the event that it becomes clear that the Senate will not act on the natural gas compromise, the House leadership may relax its position and allow the agreed upon sections to be considered by the Senate.

In this case, the President may yet sign a bill this session composed of the energy conservation, utility rate reform, and coal conversion sections. In addition, a group of over 100 House members and 30 senators are attempting to save the residential solar and conservation tax credits from the dead energy taxes section. While their efforts have failed once, they are gearing up for a second attempt. Their chances at this time appear to be fair at best.

The ultimate outcome of the Energy Policy debate rests on how well crafted the President's announced compromise is, and whether it will be acceptable to Congress.

—Mark Croke

Md. Counties Face Tax Referendums

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Citizen groups in the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George's have successfully gathered more than the required 10,000 signatures to place tax relief proposals on the ballot in November.

The Prince George's County charter amendment would freeze total property tax revenues at fiscal '78-'79 level. The Montgomery County charter amendment, which is similar to California's Proposition 13, would reduce the general fund property tax rate by about 15 percent from $2.60 to $2.25 for each $100 of assessed property value.

Montgomery County's council also passed its own tax relief proposal which is less restrictive than the citizens' proposal. The council's proposal would require approval by five of the seven council members on the annual budget, rather than the current simple majority approval. The five-member majority would be needed where the county budget's percentage increase exceeds the percentage increase in the consumer price index for the Washington area.

Both referendums will be on the ballot in November. The council's proposal states that should both measures be approved by the voters the taxpayers' referendum would take precedence and the council's proposal would be nullified.

NACo is interested in receiving information about other counties where tax relief activities are taking place. If such activities are going on in your county, please contact Geraldine Crawford, 202/785-9577.

Senate Starts Work on CETA

WASHINGTON, D.C.—On Aug. 22, the Senate began consideration of S. 2570, the reform bill to extend CETA for four years. As *County News* went to press, the bill was laid on the table to await further action after an hour's debate and one roll call vote.

Sen. Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.), the majority leader, has the prerogative under the consent calendar to bring CETA back to the floor at any time. Competing for time on the calendar are the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and six noncontroversial tax bills.

Before CETA was laid aside, a series of amendments offered in block by Sen. Pete Domenici (R-N.M.), passed by a vote of 91-0.

The first of the Domenici amendments eliminated the nonfinancial agreements between prime sponsors and state vocational education boards. In lieu of these, the governor can use the funds set aside for vocational education without the law clearly requiring consultation with prime sponsors to:

- "Coordinate programs under this act with existing vocational education programs.
- Provide needed vocational education services.
- Coordinate the utilization of funds under this act and the Vocational Education Act of 1963 to enhance economic growth and development in the state.
- Develop linkages between vocational education, education, and training programs under this act and private sector employers.
- Provide technical assistance to vocational education institutions and local education agencies to aid them in making cooperative arrangements with appropriate prime sponsors.
- Provide information, curriculum materials, and technical assistance in curriculum development and staff developments to prime sponsors."

DOMENICI'S SECOND amendment added new requirements to the prime sponsor's comprehensive employment and training agreement. These require that the agreement:

- "Include a detailed description of record-keeping procedures which will allow the Secretary to audit and monitor the prime sponsor's program concerning eligibility of participants and propriety of participant selection procedures and practice, and
- "Include a detailed description of procedures for the monitoring and auditing of any subgrantees or subcontractors."

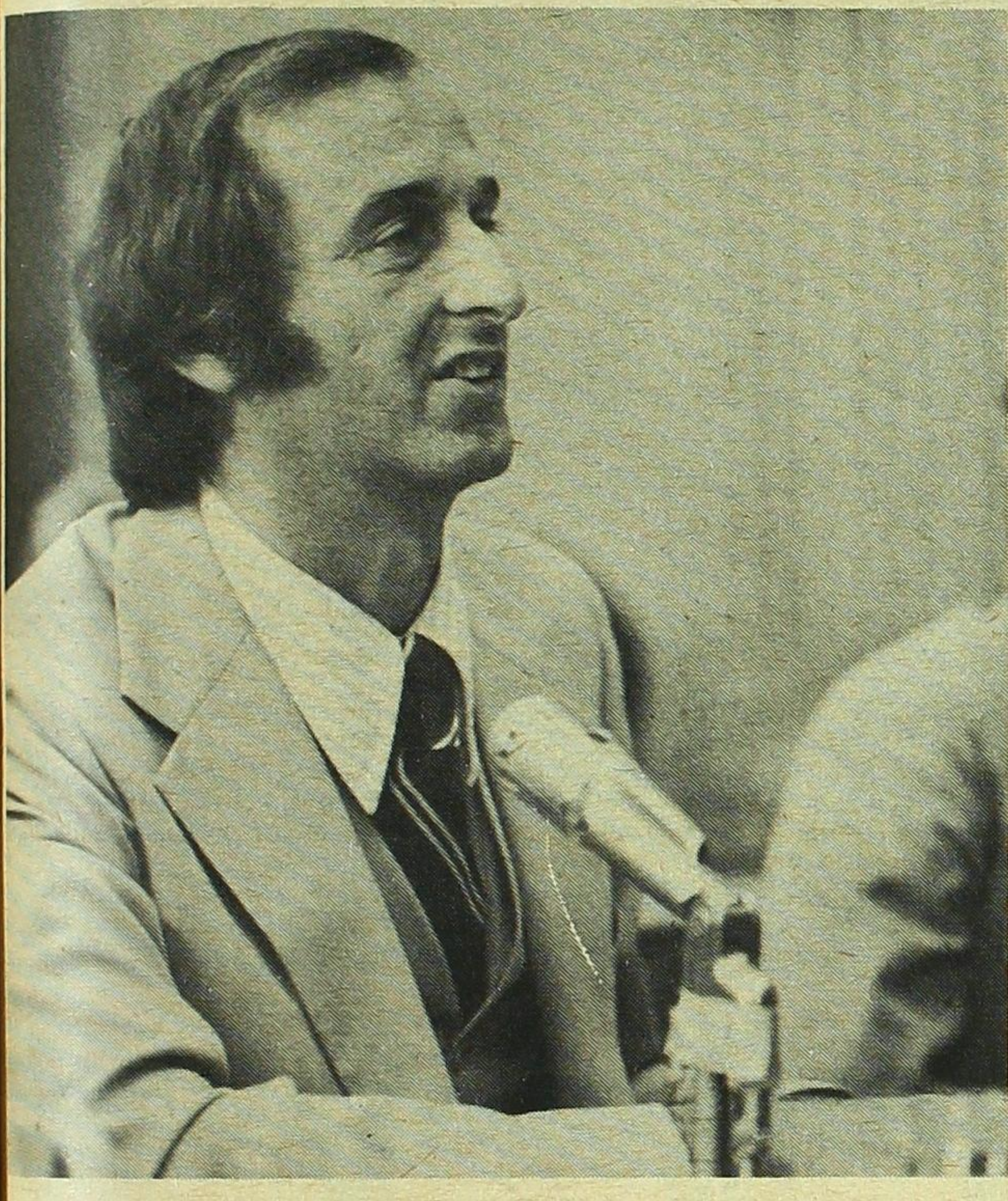
The third amendment requires the Secretary in his annual report to Congress to: "... report on the monitoring and auditing activities of the department, on administrative changes made or proposed to improve such activities and on actions taken under Section 106, and shall make any necessary proposals for legislative action."

His fourth amendment includes penalties in the criminal provisions when any recipient "... knowingly hires an ineligible individual or individuals."

The fifth amendment in the package establishes a division for monitoring and compliance in the office of the Secretary in Section 106 of S. 2570. This office would monitor and audit recipients with regard to participant eligibility.

Sen. Brooke then amended the Domenici motion by adding an "Office of Management Assistance," identical to the one in Section 158 of the House bill, H.R. 12452.

As *County News* went to press, NACo staff expected an all-night session to complete action on the Senate CETA bill.



County Executive William Murphy testifies before a Senate Finance panel.

Panel Given Reasons for Title XX Increase

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Noting that a permanent ceiling on social services funding over the past six years has had "a regressive effect on the efforts of state and local governments," William Murphy, county executive of Rensselaer County, N.Y., urged a Senate Finance subcommittee to support a bill which would increase social services funding by $750 million over the next three years. Murphy is chairman of the income maintenance subcommittee of NACo's Welfare and Social Services Steering Committee.

The county executive testified Aug. 18 in favor of H.R. 12973, a bill which would raise the Title XX (social services) ceiling from the current $2.7 billion level to $3.45 billion in fiscal '81. H.R. 12973 passed the House on July 25 by a vote of 346-54.

"By 1981, the three-year increase will be far behind the inflation rate," Murphy said. "Still, the increase will help maintain the current level of services and allow states and counties to plan for the future knowing new money will be available."

HE EXPLAINED that states and counties like the block grant approach to funding provided in Title XX because it "allows them to tailor programs to their unique needs and priorities." Among the services counties provide through Title XX are: homemaker services for old or handicapped people to keep them out of institutions, nutrition programs, protective services for children and counseling for abusive parents, day care for working poor families and for mentally retarded children, and family planning.

Murphy urged the public assistance subcommittee to support H.R. 12973 over the Administration's bill (S. 3148) which he said does not provide "an adequate or realistic increase in the Title XX ceiling." The House bill also contains an amendment requiring state officials to consult with the chief elected local officials in developing the state's comprehensive plan. (NACo strongly supports this as well as other House-passed amendments in H.R. 12973.)

The Administration opposes the three-year increase and its bill contains only a $150 million increase in 1979. Sens. Mike Gravel (D-Alaska) and Robert Dole (R-Kan.) have introduced the three-year funding amendment along with Sens. William Hathaway (D-Maine) and Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii).

No date has been set for Finance Committee markup. County officials are urged to contact members of the committee urging support of H.R. 12973 as passed by House. Finance Committee members are:

Democrats

Russell B. Long, La., Chairman
Herman E. Talmadge, Ga.
Abraham A. Ribicoff, Conn.
Harry F. Byrd Jr., Va.
Gaylord Nelson, Wis.
Mike Gravel, Alaska
Lloyd Bentsen, Tex.
William D. Hathaway, Maine
Floyd K. Haskell, Colo.
Spark Matsunaga, Hawaii
Daniel P. Moynihan, N.Y.

Republicans

Carl T. Curtis, Neb.
Clifford P. Hansen, Wyo.
Robert Dole, Kan.
Bob Packwood, Ore.
William V. Roth Jr., Del.
Paul Laxalt, Nev.
John C. Danforth, Mo.

Public Works Delay

Rough Passage in Senate Subcommittee

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Lacking enough votes to approve a modified version of the Administration's three-year, $3 billion Labor Intensive Public Works proposal, the Senate subcommittee on community and regional development last week postponed action until after the Labor Day congressional recess.

The bill, championed by Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.), ran into trouble when Sen. Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tex.) refused to join his Democratic colleagues in approving the bill. His position, coupled with opposition from the three minority Republicans on the subcommittee, prevented favorable action by the seven-member subcommittee.

As proposed by the Administration, the bill, S. 3186, would provide 90 percent grants to state and local governments for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of public facilities. Twenty-five percent of the jobs created in the first year must be made available to the long-term unemployed (i.e., persons out of work for at least 15 of the last 20 weeks). And the ratio of direct labor costs to total project costs must average at least 40 percent, thus giving the proposal its labor-intensive feature.

THE BILL would allocate funds to states on the basis of 65 percent distributed based on number of unemployed persons and 35 percent based on severity of unemployed as measured by the unemployment rate.

Substate allocations would be made to counties, cities of over 25,000 population and balance of county (for those counties containing cities of over 25,000) using the same formula which allocates funds among the states. The bill further requires that county governments containing cities of over 25,000 be given a portion of funds which would otherwise go to such cities as a reflection of the fact that counties perform many services countywide. NACo has been pressing for such a provision in the bill. The bill, however, does not indicate the factors upon which the county government's share would be based. NACo has suggested that such factors as the level of taxes collected by the county or the level of expenditures of the county compared to all local governments in the county area be used to measure countywide responsibilities.

The Senate subcommittee's delay in acting on the bill places the prospect of congressional enactment of a public works bill in doubt this year given the congressional leadership's desire to adjourn in early October.

The House economic development subcommittee recently approved a two-year, $6 billion public works bill. Although that bill has been sent to the full House Public Works Committee, it is not known at this time whether the committee will consider it.

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Changes in Civil Service, Labor Relations Affirmed

WASHINGTON, D.C.—President Carter's plans to reorganize the U.S. Civil Service Commission and to consolidate federal labor relations functions into a single agency gained congressional approval Aug. 11.

The reorganization replaces the present Civil Service Commission with two agencies, separating its inherently conflicting responsibilities. The new Office of Personnel Management will carry out the federal government's personnel management responsibilities and advise the President on personnel policy matters. The Merit Systems Protection Board will be an independent agency responsible for safeguarding merit systems against partisan political or other abuse and protecting employer rights within those systems.

THE PLAN ALSO creates the Federal Labor Relations Authority to replace the Federal Labor Relations Council and other organizational components of the federal government's labor relations program. This will bring now-scattered elements into one independent and neutral body with full-time responsibility for administering this program.

President Carter submitted Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1978 to Congress on May 23, starting a 60-legislative-day countdown during which either House could object. Since neither House voted to block the plan within the 60-day period, it was automatically approved. Provisions of the plan will be put into effect on or before Jan. 1.

NACo has prepared a brief factsheet explaining in further detail the basic provisions of the civil service reorganization plan. Anyone who would like a copy of the factsheet should write Chuck Loveless, NACo Labor-Management Relations Specialist, 1735 New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

—Chuck Loveless

Matter and Measure

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued an advance notice of proposed rulemaking on "Railroad-Highway Projects," in the Aug. 10 *Federal Register.*

FHWA is considering developing uniform nationwide criteria for selection of various traffic control systems at railroad-highway grade crossings. The General Accounting Office has charged FHWA with failure to establish standards to provide motorists sufficient protection at grade crossings. *The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)* requires certain standards for approaches to railroad-highway grade crossings. MUTCD requires, as a minimum, installation of reflectorized crossbucks, advance warning signs and pavement markings on paved surfaces. However, MUTCD does not contain criteria for installation of other types of traffic control systems. FHWA prescribes use of automatic gates with flashing lights under certain conditions for federal-aid highway projects.

FHWA's planned uniform criteria would set forth general conditions where various types of warning devices, such as flashing lights or automatic gates, would be appropriate. Where inappropriate, other means of reducing grade crossing hazards should be considered, such as grade separation, railroad-highway relocations or crossing closure.

FHWA is specifically calling for comments on the following:

- Should FHWA in cooperation with the Federal Railroad Administration develop uniform criteria for selection of highway traffic control systems at railroad-highway grade crossings?
- What specific factors and conditions should be considered for the several types of warning devices used at grade crossings?
- Any other pertinent comments on development of criteria for installation of traffic control systems at railroad-highway grade crossings.

For further information on the proposed regulation, contact James A. Carney, Office of Engineering, 202/426-0140, or Virginia Cherwek, Office of the Chief Counsel, 202/426-0786, Federal Highway Administration, 400 Seventh St., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590.

Please contact Marlene Glassman at NACo if you need a copy of the *Federal Register* notice. Please send Marlene your comments by Oct. 11 so she can coordinate and forward them to FHWA.

FHWA DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will present the following demonstration on Highway Photomontage No. 40 during September:

- Sept. 19—Kentucky Department of Transportation in Frankfort. Contact John Bridwell, director, Division of Technical Computing at 502/564-4962 for information.
- Sept. 29—Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation in Richmond. Contact Michael Bowyer, location and design engineer at 804/786-2393 for information.

The photomontage method was designed by FHWA to aid the public in understanding what is proposed in highway location and design decisions.

FHWA will also hold two Demonstration Projects No. 43 on Water Quality Monitoring during the coming months:

- Sept. 12-14—Michigan Department of Transportation in Lansing. Contact James Ritchie at 517/374-9490.
- Oct. 3-5—Office of Federal Highway Projects, FHWA, Vancouver, Wash. Contact Harry Nessly at 206/422-9376.

Senate Special Bridge Replacement and Repair Program Apportionment of Funds at $525 Million with Minimum 15 Percent and Maximum 25 Percent for Off-System Bridges

Note: The following estimates are based on current 1978 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) apportionments. Since the current FHWA bridge program relates only to bridges on the federal-aid system and includes *needs*, these estimates will be revised. In the July 31 issue of *County News* state bridge apportionments for the current House bill were presented.

	Bridge Repair and Replacement $525 Million (in thousands; add 3 zeroes to amount)	15 Percent Minimum (in thousands; add 3 zeroes to amount)	25 Percent Maximum (in thousands; add 3 zeroes to amount)
Alabama	$6,660	$999	$1,665
Alaska	512	77	128
Arizona	1,394	209	349
Arkansas	4,822	723	1,206
California	13,360	2,004	3,340
Colorado	2,168	325	542
Connecticut	1,833	275	458
Delaware	672	101	168
D.C.	4,848	727	1,212
Florida	26,849	4,026	6,711
Georgia	20,473	3,070	5,119
Hawaii	586	88	147
Idaho	3,953	593	988
Illinois	43,590	6,539	10,898
Indiana	3,200	480	800
Iowa	9,405	1,411	2,351
Kansas	19,858	2,979	4,965
Kentucky	19,542	2,931	4,886
Louisiana	34,338	5,151	8,585
Maine	2,096	314	524
Maryland	5,288	793	1,322
Massachusetts	7,798	1,170	1,950
Michigan	4,133	620	1,033
Minnesota	9,585	1,438	2,396
Mississippi	4,385	658	1,096
Missouri	7,477	1,122	1,869
Montana	2,278	342	570
Nebraska	9,472	1,420	2,367
Nevada	608	91	152
New Hampshire	5,724	859	1,431
New Jersey	5,728	859	1,432
New Mexico	1,751	263	438
New York	51,647	7,747	12,912
North Carolina	14,616	2,192	3,654
North Dakota	1,684	253	421
Ohio	13,425	2,013	3,355
Oklahoma	3,604	541	901
Oregon	4,508	676	1,127
Pennsylvania	14,759	2,214	3,690
Rhode Island	2,931	440	733
South Carolina	7,495	1,124	1,874
South Dakota	7,313	1,097	1,828
Tennessee	19,150	2,873	4,788
Texas	25,895	3,884	6,474
Utah	1,787	268	447
Vermont	5,665	850	1,416
Virginia	19,776	2,966	4,944
Washington	10,511	1,577	2,628
West Virginia	6,091	914	1,523
Wisconsin	14,089	2,113	3,522
Wyoming	2,510	377	628
Puerto Rico	1,345	202	336
Subtotal	513,187	76,978	128,297
Administrative Costs			
2¼ Percent	11,813	1,772	2,953
Total	**$525,000**	**$78,750**	**$131,250**

R & D PROJECT

Counties Can Share Ideas

WASHINGTON, D.C.—"R and D may be one of the best-kept secrets in the world." This was the view expressed at a recent meeting of local government officials concerned with the growing need for research and development techniques at the city and county level.

To counter this view and to let county officials in on the "secret," the National Association of Counties Research Foundation (NACoRF) is undertaking a new project, funded by the National Science Foundation, to explore available resources for local governments in science and technology.

The federal government spends about $28 billion every year on research and development of all types of science and technologies. Counties benefit from this research to some extent—improved methods of management like revenue forecasting; new products like the latest in firefighting equipment.

Counties could, however, be making better use of science and technology to solve their problems and in the process alleviate increasing financial pressures.

The County Research and Innovation Sharing Project will determine critical needs and problems of county governments and will make them aware of existing processes, products, and programs, including technological innovations.

In addition, by conducting site visits and compiling case studies, NACoRF staff will establish a network of counties which can share information on successful innovations.

County relationships will also be established with federal laboratories, research foundations, universities, federal, state and city agencies, and private companies. Such links will help to keep down costs to individual counties and the resulting new methods and techniques will increase productivity and may even save lives.

Counties interested in participating in this network should contact Sally Rood, NACoRF's technology assessment specialist, 202/785-9577.

Emergency Hazards Subject of Seminars

How well is your county prepared to deal with a spill from a truck carrying hazardous materials or a leak from a storage tank or other industrial facility?

If you are interested in setting up a county plan for emergency action, you may find a three-day seminar sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association helpful. Entitled "Handling Hazardous Materials Transportation Emergencies," the seminar provides a short training course for firefighters and personnel from public works and civil preparedness agencies.

The course includes instruction in evaluating potential hazards, developing decision-making and planning procedures to respond to emergencies, and identification of the kinds of personnel and resources needed by cities or counties in handling various kinds of incidents.

The seminar will be held in Chicago, Sept. 6-8; Philadelphia, Sept. 18-20; Springfield, Mass., Oct. 4-6; San Francisco, Oct. 16-18; Phoenix, Oct. 23-25; Oklahoma City, Nov. 1-3; and Houston, Nov. 8-10. Cost is $130; matching funds may be available through the U.S. Civil Preparedness Agency. For more information, contact the nearest Regional Civil Defense Director.

To receive more information or to register, contact Austin Sennett or Roberta Fry, National Fire Protection Association, 470 Atlantic Ave., Boston, Mass. 02210.

—Cliff Cobb
NACoRF

County Officials at White House

Vice President Walter Mondale addresses a White House reception Aug. 22 honoring the signing of the National Consumer Bank Act. In photo at bottom, county officials participating in the ceremony are, from left: Harold Hayden of Genesee County, Mich.; Francis L. Kuntz of Elk County, Pa.; Welbon Philips of St. Clair County, Ill.; and Robert McNichols of Pulaski County, Va. Attending but not shown was Ray Nelson of Republic County, Kan.

Proposal Redefining Urban Areas May Alter Programs

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of Commerce has announced proposed changes in the definition of a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) which could mean a shift in federal program funds and would necessitate a rethinking of many federal, state and local planning functions. (The proposals appear in the June 28 *Federal Register.*)

SMSAs were originally created as a statistical tool to provide uniform data and geographically comparable information on social and economic indicators. SMSA information provides a basis for federal government administration and distribution of financial assistance for a variety of federal programs. In addition, a number of federal programs utilize SMSA data for program planning and resource allocation within a jurisdiction.

Federal programs which make use of the SMSA for planning or fund distribution include: the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), the National Health Planning and Development Act, the Emergency School Aid Act, the Airport and Airway Development Act, the Housing Act of 1954, and the National Mass Transportation Act.

The proposed changes have already stirred controversy among members of Congress. Fifty-six members, including a large number from the Congressional Suburban Caucus, have sent a letter to President Carter asking that implementation of these changes be postponed until the congressmen and the residents of their districts have enough time to assess exactly what the changes will mean.

THE OFFICE OF Statistical Policy and Standards has proposed the following major changes in SMSA definition:

- Statistical areas would be consolidated under the new name of Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (CMSA);
- Local Metropolitan Statistical Areas (LMSA) would be defined as cities over 50,000 or cities over 25,000 which have densely built-up surrounding territory (surrounding territory must have a total population over 60,000) and an LMSA population of 100,000 to 249,999;
- Metropolitan statistical areas above 250,000 population would be named Major Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MMSAs);
- LMSAs and MMSAs would include, in addition to the central city, up to two additional cities having 1) 250,000 or more population or, 2) one-third or more of the largest cities' population (but at least 25,000), a place of work to place of residence ratio of .8, and a majority of its resident workers employed within its own limits;
- Contiguous counties would qualify based on 1) at least 15 percent of their employed population commuting into the central core, 2) two of three other criteria (35 percent urban minimum, 60 persons per square mile, 20 percent population increase since 1970). Contiguous counties will qualify if they meet either the percent urban or population density requirement.
- Only a contiguous county with a 5,000 population in the central city, or a contiguous county with 50 percent or more of its population in the urbanized area would qualify for inclusion based on its level of commuting.

Central cities and contiguous counties not meeting the above criteria for the 1980 Census will be dropped based on the above proposed changes.

If your county is affected, comments should be forwarded to Joseph W. Duncan, Director, Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards at the U.S. Department of Commerce. The Department of Commerce originally set the deadline of July 24 for receipt of written comments. However, the Federal Committee on Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas will not be meeting until September to assess the impact of the proposed changes in criteria. At this time, the committee will also analyze all comments received to date.

—Carol King
NACoR

The major areas affected based on the commuting criteria established above include:

SMSA	*Would be merged with*
Anaheim-Santa Ana-Garden Grove, Calif. (Orange)	*Los Angeles-Long Beach*
Ann Arbor, Mich.	*Detroit, Mich.*
Brockton, Mass.	*Boston, Mass.*
Caguas, P.R.	*San Juan, P.R.*
Gary-Hammond-East Chicago, Ind.	*Chicago, Ill.*
Hamilton-Middletown, Ohio	*Cincinnati, Ohio-Ky.-Ind.*
Jersey City, N.J.	*New York, N.Y.-N.J.*
Lorain-Elyria, Ohio	*Cleveland, Ohio*
Nassau-Suffolk, N.Y.	*New York, N.Y.-N.J.*
New Britain, Conn.	*Hartford, Conn.*
New Brunswick-Perth Amboy-Sayreville, N.J.	*Newark, N.J.*
Oxnard-Simi Valley-Ventura, Calif.	*Los Angeles-Long Beach, Calif.*

Selection Guideline Excerpts

The following are selected excerpts from the Uniform Guidelines on Employee Selection Procedures which were issued Aug. 22. Single copies of the document may be obtained by writing Chuck Loveless, NACoR Labor-Management Relations Specialist, 1735 New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

ADVERSE IMPACT

"The fundamental principle underlying the guidelines is that employer policies or practices which have an adverse impact on employment opportunities of any race, sex or ethnic group are illegal under Title VII and the Executive Order unless justified by business necessity. A selection procedure which has no adverse impact generally does not violate Title VII or the Executive Order. This means that an employer may usually avoid the application of the guidelines by use of procedures which have no adverse impact. If adverse impact exists, it must be justified on grounds of business necessity. Normally, this means by validation which demonstrates the relation between the selection procedure and performance on the job.

"The guidelines adopt a 'rule of thumb' as a practical means of determining adverse impact for use in enforcement proceedings. This rule is known as the 'four-fifths' or '80 percent' rule. To determine whether a selection procedure violates the 'four-fifths' rule, an employer compares its hiring rates for different groups. ... A selection rate for any race, sex or ethnic group which is less than four-fifths (or 80 percent) of the rate for the group with the highest rate will generally be regarded by the federal enforcement agencies as evidence of adverse impact. ..."

APPLICABILITY OF THE GUIDELINES

"These guidelines will be applied by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in the enforcement of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972...; by the Department of Labor...; by the Civil Service Commission in exercising its responsibilities toward state and local governments under Section 208(b)(1) of the Intergovernmental Personnel Act; by the Department of Justice in exercising its responsibilities under federal law; by the Office of Revenue Sharing of the Department of the Treasury under the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act of 1972, as amended; and by any other federal agency which adopts them."

SCOPE

"The guidelines apply to tests and other selection procedures which are used as a basis for any employment decision."

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

"Where two or more selection procedures are available which serve the user's legitimate interest in efficient and trustworthy workmanship, and which are substantially equally valid for a given purpose, the user should use the procedure which has been demonstrated to have the lesser adverse impact. Accordingly, whenever a validity study is called for by these guidelines, the user should include, as a part of the validity study, an investigation of suitable alternative selection procedures and suitable alternative methods of using the selection procedure which have as little adverse impact as possible, to determine the appropriateness of using or validating them in accord with these guidelines."

RECORDKEEPING

"Each user should maintain and have available for inspection records or other information which will disclose the impact which its tests and other selection procedures have upon employment opportunities of persons by identifiable race, sex or ethnic groups: blacks, American Indians, Asians, Hispanic or whites other than Hispanic, and totals."

THE BOTTOM LINE

"If the information called for ... shows that the total selection process for a job has an adverse impact, the individual components of the selection process should be evaluated for adverse impact. If this information shows that the total selection process does not have an adverse impact, the federal enforcement agencies in the exercise of their administrative and prosecutorial discretion, in usual circumstances, will not expect a user to evaluate the individual components for adverse impact, or to validate such individual components, and will not take enforcement action based upon adverse impact of any component of that process. ... In unusual circumstances ... the federal enforcement agencies may request a user to evaluate the individual components for adverse impact and may, where appropriate, take enforcement action with respect to the individual component."

ACCEPTABLE TYPES OF VALIDITY STUDIES

"For the purposes of satisfying these guidelines, users may rely upon criterion-related validity studies, content validity studies or construct validity studies, in accordance with the standards set forth in the technical standards of these guidelines, Section 14. New strategies for showing the validity of selection procedures will be evaluated as they become accepted by the psychological profession."

NEED FOR DOCUMENTATION OF VALIDITY

"For any selection procedure which is part of a selection process which has an adverse impact and which selection procedure has an adverse impact, each user should maintain and have available such documentation as is described in Section 15. ..."

New Guidelines Set

Continued from page 1

NACo STAFF has worked closely with the guidelines staff in an attempt to ensure that the concerns of county officials were taken into consideration. A series of meetings was held with the guidelines staff during the two weeks prior to issuance of the new document to discuss the views of public employers on the July 13 draft. NACo strongly supports the overall concept of developing a set of uniform employee selection guidelines but was concerned that the technical, documentation and record-keeping requirements imposed by the July 13 draft placed an onerous burden on county governments.

Single copies of the guidelines may be obtained by writing Chuck Loveless, NACoR's Labor-Management Relations Specialist, 1735 New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Once the staff has had an opportunity to adequately analyze the guidelines, NACoR's labor management-relations staff plans to prepare an information packet to assist county governments in complying with the new regulations.

AMENDMENTS SOUGHT

Payments-in-Lieu Rally Planned

WASHINGTON, D.C.—With the 95th Congress still shooting for an adjournment date of Oct. 7, little time remains to gain approval of two pending bills that amend the payments-in-lieu of taxes program.

To generate support for this legislation and other NACo Countdown Issues, NACo will hold a three-day rally Sept. 13-15. The rally was announced in a joint statement by NACo Western Interstate Region President John Carlson, mayor of Fairbanks North Star Borough, Alaska, and NACo Public Lands Steering Committee Chairman George Buzianis, chairman of the Tooele County (Utah) Board of Commissioners.

The NACo Capitol Hill Communications Center will be the base of operations. The facility is located at 115 C St., S.E., one block from the Cannon House Office Building.

The bills, S. 74 and H.R. 8394, have each passed one house and now await consideration by the other. S. 74, sponsored by Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.), would add inactive military lands and certain national parks as entitlement lands under P.L. 94-565, the payments-in-lieu of taxes act. H.R. 8394, sponsored by Reps. Bo Ginn (D-Ga.) and William Steiger (R-Wis.), would provide a payments-in-lieu system for fish and wildlife refuges. (Below is a county-by-county analysis of both bills.)

In addition to the pending payments-in-lieu legislation, NACo is concerned with the outcome of county protests on underpayments made by the Department of Interior under P.L. 94-565 for fiscal '77. Protests filed with the Department of Interior amount to approximately $2.5 million. These protests must be resolved before Sept. 30, when payments for fiscal '78 are to be made. A meeting with Department of Interior officials on these protests will be scheduled during the rally.

During the rally, county officials will also be talking to their congressmen about other pending legislation of priority to counties. These "countdown" issues are highlighted on the back page of *County News*.

Fortunately, the annual appropriations for the payments-in-lieu program will not be a part of the rally. Both the House and Senate have approved the Interior Appropriation Bill (H.R. 12932) which contains $105 million for payments to counties in fiscal '79. The four-year authorization bill (H.R. 10787) for payments-in-lieu and other Bureau of Land Management programs has also been approved by both Houses. It contains authorization levels of $105 million for fiscal '79, $108 million for fiscal '80, $111 million for fiscal '81, and $114 million for fiscal '82. Annual appropriations for fiscal '80, '81 and '82 will still be necessary in the future.

Reception to Honor Rep. Frank Evans and CCI Executive Director Clark Buckler

A highlight of the three-day rally will be a reception to honor two Coloradoans who are retiring this year: Rep. Frank Evans, the principal sponsor of the Payments-in-Lieu of Taxes Act, and Clark Buckler, executive director of Colorado Counties, Inc. NACo will miss both of these hard-working people who played a key role in the enactment of the payments-in-lieu program and this rally will provide an opportunity for county officials to show their appreciation.

The schedule for the rally will be:

Wednesday, Sept. 13

6-7:30 p.m.	Registration and informal reception, NACo Capitol Hill Center, 115 C St., S.E.

Thursday, Sept. 14

9-10 a.m.	Briefing on payments-in-lieu legislation and NACo Countdown Issues.
10 a.m.-6 p.m.	Visits with congressmen and senators. Meeting on payments-in-lieu protests (to be scheduled).
6-7 p.m.	Reception honoring Rep. Frank Evans and CCI Executive Director Clark Buckler, NACo Capitol Hill Center.

Friday, Sept. 15

9-10 a.m.	Report back on visits, NACo Capitol Hill Center.
10 a.m.-Noon	Follow-up congressional visits.

County officials attending the rally should arrange for accommodations at one of three hotels within walking distance of the NACo Capitol Hill facility:

Hyatt Regency, 202/737-1234
Quality Inn, Capitol Hill, 202/638-1616
Skyline Inn, 202/488-7500

For any questions concerning the rally or legislation, contact NACo staff representatives Jim Evans or Linda Bennett at 202/785-9577.

Compensation Proposed for Wildlife Refuges

The Refuge Revenue Sharing Act of 1978, sponsored by Reps. Bo Ginn (D-Ga.) and Bill Steiger (R-Wis.), has passed the House and is pending Senate approval. The Environment and Public Works Committee approved the bill for Senate floor action.

Under the proposal, a county containing fish and wildlife refuge acreage would receive an annual payment of the greater amount of a) 75 cents per acre, b) .75 percent of market value, or c) 25 percent of federal oil and gas leases on wildlife refuges.

It is estimated that the additional cost of the program will increase from $3.5 million in fiscal '79 to $14.6 million in fiscal '83. However, if oil and gas leasing receipts increase, as can be expected if such development on refuge lands continues, these funds may be sufficient to cover the cost of the program with no additional appropriation necessary.

Listed below are estimates prepared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for payments counties would receive under the proposed bill compared to current wildlife refuge payments.

STATE and County	Current Payment	H.R. 8394 Proposed Payment
ALABAMA		
Limestone	$9,345	$21,780
Madison	14,135	33,964
Morgan	16,783	39,251
Perry	0	3,364
Walker	0	960
ARIZONA		
Mohave	530	717
Pima	418	99,895
Yuma	7,122	9,641
ALASKA		
Kodiak Island	67	3,192
ARKANSAS		
Arkansas	21,060	301,640
Crittenden	22,354	30,260
Desha	6,649	132,889
Mississippi	1,470	9,296
Monroe	8,799	14,296
Phillips	3,921	56,942
Pope	7,438	15,255
Yell	79	79
Clay	0	771
Fulton	0	390
CALIFORNIA		
Alameda	14,400	19,492
Colusa	31,166	115,493
Glenn	5,996	25,689
Humboldt	1,576	2,133
Imperial	3,512	7,007
Kern	7,329	39,818
Merced	29,706	40,217
Modoc	14,784	23,455
Monterey	3,110	15,000
San Mateo	1,481	2,847
Santa Clara	3,731	5,051
Santa Cruz	2,720	3,749
Shasta	0	3,300
Siskiyou	212	5,902
Solano	1,104	1,495
Sutter	5,893	29,149
Tulare	3,403	15,491
Ventura	2,939	4,210
COLORADO		
Alamosa	17,635	23,916
Costilla	334	452
Delta	0	976
Jackson	28,172	38,135
Lake	0	3,485
Moffat	8,502	12,189
Rio Grande	24,304	33,491
CONNECTICUT		
Westbrook	1,687	2,745
DELAWARE		
Kent	21,286	107,844
Sussex	38,895	59,515
FLORIDA		
Alchua	0	975
Boker	1,037	2,759
Brevard	14,634	19,809
Citrus	2,808	17,580
Franklin	26,180	79,370
Hernando	1,940	10,061
Hillsborough	0	246
Jefferson	1,353	45,923
Lake	195	525
Lee	24,202	33,320
Levy	0	284
Martin	6,313	67,500
Monroe	40,734	58,776
Palm Beach	3,514	38,250
Putnam	0	3,045
Taylor	105	2,043
Volusia	18,653	34,028
Wakulla	10,526	310,215
GEORGIA		
Charlton	45,791	130,823
Chatham	19,414	60,791
Clinch	4,480	18,750
Jasper	5,617	21,256
Jenkins	0	1,191
Jones	26,301	95,985
McIntosh	4,205	74,080
Meriwether	0	420
Ware	41,795	136,664
Whitfield	0	686
HAWAII		
Kaui	11,996	27,803
Hawaii	0	1,430
Honolulu	0	1,500
Maui	3,443	4,725
IDAHO		
Bannock	0	375
Bear Lake	130	1,471
Blaine	52	72
Bonneville	3,803	5,170
Boundary	9,469	12,817
Canyon	619	2,844
Caribou	1,170	1,734
Gooding	0	1,868
Jefferson	13,099	55,944
Power	11	270
ILLINOIS		
Calhoun	4,799	6,570
Carroll	1,804	3,338
Cass	1,068	1,920
Jackson	1,267	1,933
Jo Daviess	119	618
Marshall	2,179	3,345
Mason	1,857	6,735
Mercer	157	212
Morgan	472	1,238
Pike	5,306	8,190
Rock Island	70	195
Union	608	1,050
Whiteside	95	1,080
Williamson	138,241	187,128
INDIANA		
Gibson	0	585
Jackson	25,945	35,120
Jennings	18,799	25,447
IOWA		
Allamakee	3,397	13,526
Clayton	1,548	7,528
Clinton	410	1,613
Delaware	0	375
Dubuque	108	614
Harrison	13,825	21,765
Jackson	1,395	4,694
Kossuth	5,788	11,319
Louisa	300	413
Muscatine	0	900
Pottawattamie	1,630	4,463
Scott	128	398
KANSAS		
Reno	1,040	1,411
Rice	1,107	1,499
Stafford	31,810	46,285
KENTUCKY		
Franklin	0	428
Fulton	7,218	9,771
LOUISIANA		
Cameron	53,927	255,840
LaSalle	1,186	13,936
Natchitoches	0	2,183
Plaquemines	404,159	548,687
St. Bernard	0	6,301
MAINE		
Hancock	0	1,400
Cumberland	391	529
Knox	490	1,083
Sagadahoc	50	150
Waldo	263	801
Washington	8,599	75,488
York	4,237	7,136
MARYLAND		
Anne Arundel	0	22,320
Dorchester	21,997	29,776
Harford	167	252
Kent	28,434	51,435
Prince George's	10,385	166,185
Somerset	2,915	5,805
Worcester	587	6,255
MASSACHUSETTS		
Barnstable	1,032	20,265
Berkshire	0	1,028
Bristol	0	3,975
Essex	3,808	63,105
Middlesex	9,762	30,938
Nantucket	92	1,493
Worcester	549	993
MICHIGAN		
Antrim	0	4,433
Charlevoix	99	3,450
Chippewa	0	128
Presque Isle	0	1,200
Saginaw	21,889	33,218
Schoolcraft	12,151	175,902
Washtenaw	0	45
MINNESTOA		
Aitkin	6,919	12,904
Becker	35,887	71,280
Big Stone	16,553	35,250
Clay	9,649	33,750
Cottonwood	2,576	5,685
Douglas	9,872	17,240
Grant	13,206	25,553
Hennepin	75	413
Houston	5,030	15,761
Jackson	5,018	10,688
Kandiyohi	18,495	36,143
Lac Qui Parle	27,597	48,840
Mahnomen	4,723	8,325
Marshall	26,776	45,818
Otter Tail	21,547	68,288
Pine	688	2,520
Polk	6,884	13,478
Pope	15,940	21,577
Ramsey	476	653
Sherburne	47,203	88,373
Sterns	12,655	22,860
Stevens	14,122	28,073
Swift	7,838	24,818
Traverse	7,849	13,440
Wabasha	2,136	3,600
Wilkin	2,039	6,315
Winona	1,403	3,029
Yellow Medicine	170	368

STATE and County	Current Payment	H.R. 8394 Proposed Payment
MISSISSIPPI		
Holmes	31,334	57,068
Jackson	13,865	21,619
Lauderdale	0	3,938
Lee	0	420
Noxubee	10,441	66,426
Oktibbeha	10,703	89,310
Washington	34,009	46,036
Winston	10,441	103,449
Yazoo	685	928
MISSOURI		
Boone	0	990
Chariton	24,012	32,504
Holt	13,983	18,928
Newton	0	3,915
Pike	18,719	26,618
Stoddard	7,145	17,930
Wayne	5,270	14,585
MONTANA		
Beaverhead	27,590	57,165
Blaine	1,038	2,953
Cascade	0	8,966
Chouteau	0	210
Custer	0	126
Daniels	351	727
Fergus	10,025	23,386
Flathead	11,851	16,294
Gallatin	0	4,875
Garfield	0	1,977
Hill	3	72
Lake	8,712	24,285
Madison	0	1,200
Musselshell	2,422	8,856
Petroleum	541	3,591
Phillips	8,478	10,643
Powell	676	916
Ravalli	10,856	14,696
Roosevelt	1,698	2,881
Sanders	1,129	18,461
Sheridan	23,377	40,341
Teton	307	559
Toole	1,554	2,513
Valley	5,971	1,430
NEBRASKA		
Cherry	39,090	122,367
Clay	14,712	33,001
Dawes	0	135
Fillmore	8,890	16,184
Franklin	4,223	10,409
Garden	15,549	68,637
Gosper	3,816	9,801
Kearney	7,840	18,860
Phelps	4,095	10,301
Washington	16,697	32,430
York	1,469	3,773
NEVADA		
Clark	2,787	24,551
Douglas	0	750
Elko	5,771	6,290
Humboldt	3,830	8,789
Lincoln	6,377	8,632
Washoe	4,176	10,760
White Pine	3,259	4,411
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
Hillsborough	14	4,408
NEW JERSEY		
Atlantic	29,070	89,280
Burlington	213	437
Morris	81,471	110,283
Ocean	22,791	30,851
Salem	2,756	3,885
NEW MEXICO		
Chaves	2,338	17,647
Colfax	4,074	6,282
Roosevelt	0	2,423
San Miguel	11,429	19,987
Socorro	33,941	208,970
NEW YORK		
Cortland	0	1,575
Genesee	13,385	22,461
Nassau	37	2,403
Orleans	11,811	22,168
Seneca	8,037	18,126
Suffolk	46,789	89,144
NORTH CAROLINA		
Anson	19,538	33,791
Camden	8,519	11,786
Carteret	4,645	9,395
Chowan	0	960
Currituck	6,120	9,273
Dare	3,122	45,000
Gates	1,917	4,363
Hyde	57,943	115,185
Richmond	2,125	6,482
Washington	5,542	18,019
NORTH DAKOTA		
Barnes	6,942	16,135
Benson	6,864	18,816
Bottineau	23,594	61,223
Burke	18,240	47,377
Burleigh	11,664	30,992
Cass	5,061	7,613
Cavalier	15,154	23,061
Dickey	7,124	18,543
Divide	7,281	14,500
Dunn	2,598	7,189
Eddy	4,729	10,440
Emmons	2,166	5,423
Foster	1,330	3,513
Grand Forks	6,089	11,166
Griggs	2,165	3,020
Kidder	6,259	22,146
La Moure	4,964	10,800
Logan	7,475	18,470
McHenry	35,944	104,621
McIntosh	13,699	31,524
McLean	5,706	13,112
Mountrail	6,541	14,861
Nelson	2,476	8,026
Pembina	3,005	5,625
Pierce	6,523	16,712
Ramsey	25,380	48,730
Ransom	4,662	8,879
Renville	81,500	110,286
Richland	5,765	9,459
Rolette	5,794	11,137
Sargent	14,972	24,143
Sheridan	5,070	14,380
Slope	713	1,566
Steele	3,002	6,047
Stutsman	31,041	80,117
Towner	3,651	7,453
Trail	1,027	1,872
Walsh	1,871	4,170
Ward	26,150	39,912
Wells	5,653	12,136
Williams	5,229	10,897
OHIO		
Guernsey	0	353
Licking	0	2,445
Lucas	34,143	48,630
Ottawa	22,968	35,160
OKLAHOMA		
Alfalfa	2,718	18,674
Comanche	16,693	29,145
Johnston	0	1,142
OREGON		
Benton	15,414	26,359
Clackamas	0	2,363
Clatsop	9,664	13,343
Harney	75,842	102,662
Klamath	10,472	21,952
Lake	16,543	47,885
Marion	9,444	12,783
Morrow	2,091	3,804
Polk	10,669	14,442
Umatilla	58	1,064
PENNSYLVANIA		
Clinton	0	1,008
Crawford	17,453	23,625
Delaware	1,829	26,400
Philadelphia	1,611	24,326
Tioga	0	653
RHODE ISLAND		
Town of Middletown	2,114	3,176
Town of New Shoreham	94	1,088
Town of Charlestown	338	1,680
Town of South Kingston	5,540	7,665
SOUTH CAROLINA		
Beaufort	3,518	30,000
Charlestown	6,380	51,074
Chesterfield	17,977	238,309
Clarendon	11,645	65,175
Jasper	8,780	11,885
Orangeburg	0	1,980
Oconee	0	570
SOUTH DAKOTA		
Aurora	3,135	6,463
Beadle	3,428	7,324
Bennett	16,523	30,051
Bon Homme	831	1,204
Brookings	3,995	8,183
Brown	24,371	53,486
Brule	1,063	1,611
Campbell	763	2,105
Charles Mix	3,440	4,657
Clark	1,661	5,589
Clay	94	127
Codington	2,570	6,782
Davison	305	464
Day	7,475	21,236
Deuel	2,126	6,062
Douglas	1,668	1,999
Edmunds	919	3,474
Faulk	1,668	1,999
Grant	2,280	5,360
Gregory	672	1,137
Hamlin	827	2,984
Hand	1,490	4,326
Hanson	820	1,462
Hughes	113	204
Hutchinson	423	573
Jerauld	490	1,211
Kingsbury	2,384	5,036
Lake	5,597	9,511
Lawrence	0	330
Lincoln	454	614
Marshall	2,053	6,327
McCook	3,871	5,776
McPherson	4,367	9,201
Miner	1,098	2,715
Minnehaha	6,588	8,918
Moody	1,808	3,573
Potter	392	614
Roberts	3,501	9,643
Sanborn	71	192
Spink	970	2,893
Sully	124	399
Turner	406	550
Union	252	342
Walworth	135	596
TENNESSEE		
Decatur	1,203	1,935
Haywood	23,991	42,075
Humphreys	2,131	2,885
Lake	4,372	5,918
Obion	2,487	3,367
Stewart	12,339	19,257
Unici	0	240
TEXAS		
Aransas	38,452	196,729
Bailey	1,883	4,357
Brazoria	66,523	120,664
Burnett	0	319
Calhoun	681	6,390
Cameron	20,791	67,410
Chambers	13,210	22,937
Colorado	10,166	17,700
Haynes	0	435
Hidalgo	3,551	12,990
Randall	5,288	25,365
Refugio	823	2,490
Uvalde	0	375
Willacy	24	227
UTAH		
Box Elder	1,788	15,609
Juab	1,379	2,831
Uintah	5,294	6,946
VERMONT		
Franklin	2,770	12,715
VIRGINIA		
Accomack	8,751	15,879
Charles City	0	1,335
Chesapeake	11,344	55,719
Chesterfield	2,228	9,968
Craig	0	1,488
Fairfax	31,265	42,322
Northampton	483	1,313
Poquoson	462	2,456
Prince William	479	651
Suffolk	17,740	74,937
Virginia Beach	10,671	83,895
Wythe	0	603
WASHINGTON		
Adams	4,270	19,420
Benton	6,404	10,995
Chelan	0	10,196
Clallam	3,841	7,517
Cowlitz	0	1,125
Grant	3,764	23,032
Klickitat	12,372	17,657
Okanogan	0	1,575
Pacific	3,399	24,612
Pierce	329	5,892
San Juan	0	430
Skamania	0	3,465
Spokane	11,181	27,167
Stevens	14,455	112,295
Thurston	13,325	18,038
Walla Walla	1,219	1,650
Wahkiakum	15,077	20,409
Yakima	7,130	10,578
WEST VIRGINIA		
Greenbrier	0	1,725
Jefferson	0	888
Randolph	0	258
WISCONSIN		
Bayfield	0	315
Buffalo	1,144	8,048
Columbia	1,404	1,901
Crawford	4,052	19,658
Dane	784	1,062
Dodge	17,176	27,150
Fond du Lac	1,446	2,145
Grant	1,767	8,513
Jefferson	696	1,751
Juneau	9,696	37,522
LaCrosse	2,705	15,382
Polk	736	996
Rock	303	410
St. Croix	4,855	6,572
Trempealeau	1,216	2,190
Vernon	1,547	7,566
WYOMING		
Albany	649	2,350
Carbon	23	247
Crook	0	2,569
Sweetwater	8,234	16,417
Teton	47,984	561,067

Inactive Military Land Would Net Payments

S. 74, sponsored by Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.) adds inactive military land and certain parks to the payments-in-lieu of taxes program. It has passed the Senate and is now pending House approval in the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

The addition of lands that are designated by the Army as semiactive or inactive installations include over 1.09 million acres at an estimated cost of $313,000.

S. 74 also authorizes payments under P.L. 94-565 for lands acquired for federal parks where the state and local governments, in effect, act as agent for the federal government.

Counties containing such lands were denied payment in 1977 because of a provision that prohibits payments for federal lands once in state or local government ownership. The overall impact of this change would be to add approximately 2.5 million acres of entitlement lands at an estimated annual cost of $1.9 million.

Following is a listing of counties potentially affected by the addition of inactive military bases as entitlement lands:

State, County	Estimated Payment Increase
Arkansas	
Crawford	$ 196
Franklin	8,200
Sebastian	44,914
California	
Santa Barbara	2,372
Alameda	1,765
San Luis Obispo	31,770
Georgia	
Camden	6,617
New York	
Jefferson	80,449
Virginia	
Caroline	57,785
Nottoway	33,694
Wisconsin	
Monroe	44,834

Following is a listing of the counties potentially impacted by the addition of national parks once held in state or local ownership prior to federal acquisition. (The exact breakdown of acreage and estimated payments were still undetermined at press time. County officials from these counties should call NACo for updated information.)

Mammoth Cave National Park, Ky.—Barren, Edmondson, Hart Counties.

Big Bend National Park, Tex.—Brewster County.

Big Cypress National Preserve, Fla.—Collier, Dade, Monroe Counties.

Everglades National Park, Fla.—Collier, Dade, Monroe Counties.

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park—Kentucky: Bell, Harlan Counties; Tennessee: Claiborne County; Virginia: Lee County.

Natchez Trace Parkway—Alabama: Colbert, Lauderdale Counties; Mississippi: Adams, Attala, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Claiborne, Clay, Hinds, Itawamba, Jefferson, Leake, Lee, Madison, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Rankin, Tishomingo, and Webster Counties; Tennessee: Hickman, Lawrence, Lewis, Maury, Wayne, Williamson Counties.

Blue Ridge Parkway—North Carolina: Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, McDowell, Mitchell, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, Yancey Counties; Virginia: Albemarle, Amherst, Augusta, Bedford, Botetourt, Carroll, Floyd, Franklin, Grayson, Nelson, Patrick, Roanoke, Rockbridge Counties.

Cape Hatteras National Seashore, N.C.—Dare, Hyde Counties.

Cape Lookout, N.C.—Carteret County.

Great Smokey Mountains National Park—North Carolina: Haywood, Swain Counties; Tennessee: Blount, Cocke, Sevier Counties.

Shenandoah National Park, Va.—Albemarle, Augusta, Greene, Madison, Page, Rappahannock, Rockingham, Warren Counties.

CHAMBERS COUNTY, TEX.

Officials Have Environmental Data at Fingertips

Chambers, a county in the rural Gulf Coast area of southeast Texas, has implanted itself firmly in the space age. By enlisting a computer to aid in assessing environmental impacts of development proposals, the 15,000 people of Chambers County have combined orderly growth with environmental preservation.

Originating with former Chambers County Judge Oscar F. Nelson, the Quality of Life Computer sprang from the desire of county leaders to provide for future development; to co-exist with one of the nation's fastest growing urban areas, Houston; and to preserve, if not improve, the natural beauty and resources in which the county abounds.

Starting in 1972, county leaders sought to boil down the myriad of environmental factors existing in the 600 sq. mile county to data practical for use in making administrative decisions. Termed an environmental impact statement (EIS), such information is used by county officials to determine possible problems and conflicts in any proposed development.

In late 1977, the computer was used to correlate 75 environmental factors such as wildlife habitat, water quality, land use, vegetation and hurricane risk. It also has the ability to draw graphs and plot distribution maps.

The computer's central data bank is located on the Rice University campus in Houston. Through written or phone communications with the Houston terminal, the computer allows the county engineer's office to quickly assess impacts of developer proposals without the need for a large staff of professional planners.

The Chambers County computer can assess environmental problems as specific as the effect of a small construction project on an endangered species of wolf, or as broad as a comprehensive impact statement on large proposals.

Requiring only the project's size, type and location, the computer uses virtually all known facts about the Texas community to issue a report. Where data is lacking on a particular element, comparative figures of similar counties are used to construct a standardized model.

DEVELOPING THE PROJECT

The Quality of Life Computer is one of the many diverse projects under the direction of the Southwest Center for Urban Research, which is sponsored by a consortium of five Houston area universities and colleges.

Director for the Quality of Life Computer project is Peter G. Rowe, assistant professor at Rice University. An interdisciplinary team including economists, lawyers, political scientists, geologists, hydrologists, biologists, chemists, and soils experts from several universities have been assembled to aid Rowe in collecting and constructing the computer's data base.

However, Rowe's ability to relate to Chamber's diverse population, and technical expertise are credited with propelling the project into existence. The Chambers project has generated more than 1,600 pages in seven volumes, a condensation of which, "Principles for Local Environmental Management," is to be published later. To begin the program, Chambers and the Southwest Center jointly applied for National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Funds and received an initial grant of $263,000. Other grants from the county itself, private industry and NSF totaled $445,000 over a five-year period.

The Quality of Life Computer began at Chambers as a research project. It received funds from NSF specifically to evaluate feasibility of using the systems approach in preparing environmental impact statements. Today the county contributes approximately $50,000 annually for its share of the project, which includes a yearly update of the data base.

COORDINATING COUNTY AND COMPUTER

One drawback, however, in the Chambers County project is the lack of full integration of the computer into the county's decision-making processes. Gui C. Jackson, judge of the County Court, feels that the computer's potential has not been realized. "It's not the computer's fault," he notes. "It is the organization structure of the county."

For example, a provision in county law separates the engineer's office from county jurisdiction. The county administrator must submit the development proposal to the engineer's office to be forwarded to the computer terminal in Houston.

Although computer use has increased over last year, Jackson believes the program would be more effective if a terminal could be established in Chambers—making direct communication with the computer possible. The judge also envisions the establishment of a county planning office to handle development proposals and computer communications.

THE FUTURE

While application of the new systems used in programming and organizing computer data is important to the success of the project, equally important are the techniques used by researchers in the collection, collation, and analysis of raw data about the county. In determining future applications of the procedure, however, the effectiveness of the systems approach during both the research and the programming stages must be tested in real-life situations.

Jackson believes that far from being limited to environmental assessments, the computer could issue a financial impact statement assessing both cost and types of county services required of the development proposal.

County officials could gauge the impact of proposals on natural and man-made resources, along with an analysis of the project's cost effectiveness. The problem areas of environmental impact would be balanced with a cost analysis of the additional water supply, drainage conditions, man-hours and general usage of county resources.

The computer could also assess the tax revenue and jobs generated by the proposal versus the environmental and cost liabilities. In this way, county officials would be in a good position to judge the value of the proposal to the county.

Project Director Rowe sees the computer's future in an even broader spectrum. He says, "The first problem in achieving research and implementation at the county level is typically the lack of technical expertise and funding." He is seeking a broad transferable systems technique which can be applied to other biosystems.

Applying the technique to an industrialized or urban area and supplying the additional services envisioned by Jackson would be a complex effort. The location would be critical for the project to be cost-effective. Only a rapidly growing and developing area or group of areas, such as Houston, could support such a project. At the county level, however, a regionally coordinated effort could increase the funding and technical support enough to make the system cost effective.

Other applications and development of the environmental computer are possible. It remains, however, for someone like Judge Jackson or Peter Rowe to see the potentials. "There are," as Judge Jackson states, "two types of people: those who react to others; and those who cause others to react."

—Ronnie W. McGhee
NACoR

COMPUTER INNOVATIONS

PINELLAS COUNTY, FLA.

Automation Expedites Trial Proceedings

by Harold Mullendore
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Pinellas County, Fla.

PINELLAS COUNTY, Fla.—The Criminal Justice Information System here has received national recognition as one of the most advanced computer-based criminal justice systems in the country.

Developed in response to the needs of the Sixth Judicial Circuit of Florida, the system provides coordination among 24 municipalities, the sheriff's department, several police departments, two courthouses, and two jails. The size of Pinellas County is a problem, since it covers 280 square miles and has faced population growth from 350,000 in 1964 to more than 750,000. This figure rises with the influx of transients in the tourist season.

THE COMPLETELY automated system can provide information on arrests and bookings; custody and bond status; a person's related cases; case-related persons; case progress docket; case status summary; results calendar; case calendaring; charges, cases or people; court calendar viewing; consolidation of persons on alias connections; parole/probation information. A unique feature is four automated calendars for motions, sentencing, arraignment and trial.

Since 1976 Steve E. Long has served as coordinator of the Criminal Justice Information System. He is responsible to the Criminal Justice User Policy Board which is appointed by the governor and made up of representatives of 10 criminal justice agencies. The board establishes policies, priorities, and general direction.

The computer system itself is an expansion of one first instituted in 1966 to improve the functions of all county departments, including sheriff, clerk of the court, property appraiser, supervisor of elections and tax collector. In fact, the rapidly increasing needs of the criminal justice agencies have necessitated the installation of a second computer.

Meanwhile, some traditional processes are being changed. Case numbers are assigned by the computer at the time of arrest rather than when a case enters the court's jurisdiction. Subpoenas, notices and bond letters are automatically generated as they are requested by the various agencies, and the clerk can update duplicate dockets and records all at one time. The system also produces statistical information as required by state and federal agencies and provides management with information related to the efficient operation of their departments.

Another benefit is the ability to project needs—for additional judges, jail space, courtroom space, or personnel.

JUDGE HARRY W. Fogle, chief judge for the Sixth Judicial Circuit, says, "The system presently in operation in our circuit has been extremely helpful to me as chief judge. We find we are able to move cases quicker for better control over the calendaring as well as ... over the location of the individuals in the system. ... We have information at our fingertips not available prior to the automated system. The Criminal Justice Information System has provided me with the necessary tools to fulfill my obligations with a high level of efficiency."

The Juvenile Justice Information System Module will be the next development of the Criminal Justice Information System. It is estimated that between 75 percent and 85 percent of the adult system can be used in its development, although the law requires a separate system for juvenile cases which are handled in a special division of the circuit court.

Additional plans include the automation of the civil court, probate court and traffic court. The addition of these divisions will make information available to the courts, the clerk of courts, state's attorney, public defenders, parole/probation, the sheriff's office, and the police departments of St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo and Pinellas Park.

The system in Pinellas County can readily be transferred to similar communities, and more than 50 jurisdictions have investigated its possibilities.

One side effect of the system is an increased spirit of communication and cooperation among the various agencies. People are usually not concerned with another agency's need for the same data, but the integrated criminal justice system has created an awareness of how offices relate within the county. This, in turn, means a smoothly operating system, greater accuracy of records and less duplication.

Counties & Energy

Texas Lends Energy Aid to Counties

Many states have developed programs to reduce energy use in industry, homes, transportation, and commercial facilities, but the Texas energy office is grouped among the leaders in helping local governments and school districts reduce energy waste. In a two-pronged program of seminars and grants, the governor's Office of Energy Resources is working with local governments to cut energy use in government facilities and through consumer education.

The reasons for conservation in this energy-rich state are clear. Although the largest producer of natural gas in the nation, Texans paid an average 16.4 cents per thousand cubic feet (mcf) for natural gas in 1972. By 1976, that average had jumped to 76.7 cents per mcf. While Texas communities have not suffered the natural gas shortages and bitter winters that have shut down operations in other states, there have been brief periods of severe shortages. Gas and electric utilities have begun curtailment measures, and the rise in energy prices has been steady—with no end in sight.

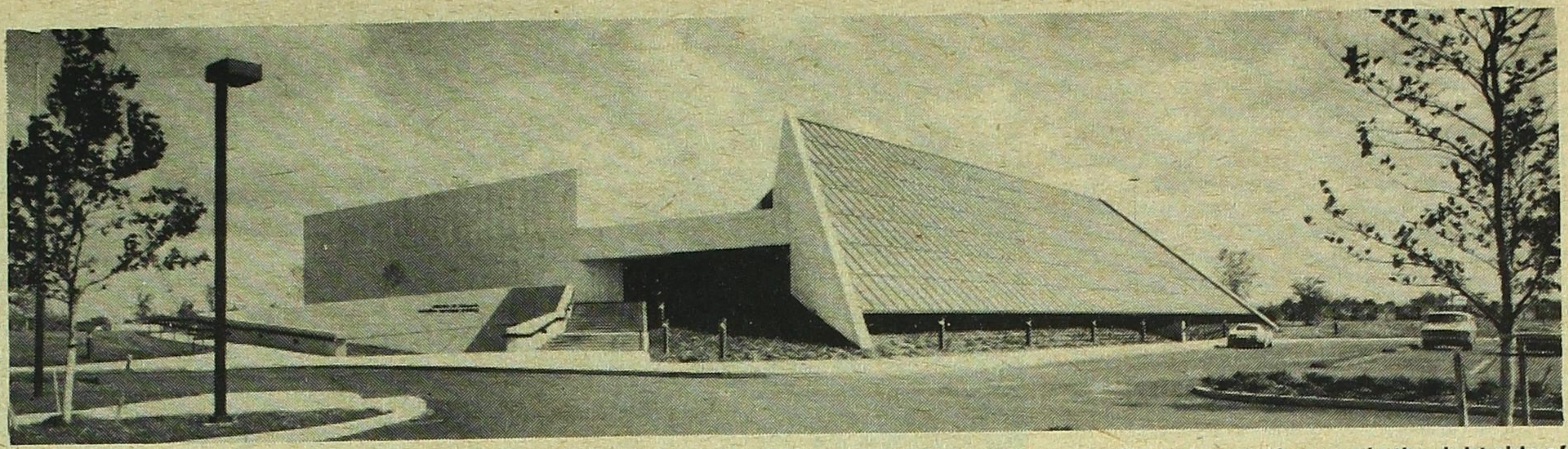
Since energy use by local governments forms a substantial part of the state's overall energy usage and is also a critical factor in property tax increases, the state is conducting a series of 24 one-day workshops for local officials. The program emphasizes energy and cost-saving techniques within local government agencies, as well as ways to encourage public participation in community-wide energy conservation efforts.

Another aspect of the state's energy conservation plan is innovative grants for energy conservation to counties, cities, school districts, and regional councils of government. Over $220,000 was awarded in December 1977 to 13 successful applicants. A multiagency selection committee chose the awards from among 30 submittals, and the state plans a similar grant program this fall.

Local government projects funded last year include: a weatherization program, a consumer relations and awareness program, technology transfer, utility analysis and incentive program, building efficiency, energy budgeting for local government agencies, and energy audit of a water treatment and development facility.

Texas counties that are interested in the workshop and grant programs should write to the Governor's Office of Energy Resources, 7703 North Lamar, Fifth Floor, Austin, Tex. 78752.

For more information about any of these articles, contact NACoR's Energy Project.



Macomb County's (Mich.) solar heated satellite services center should pay for itself within 10 years. The solar panels, seen in the right side of the photo, are an integral part of the building's design.

County Use of Solar Energy on Rise

The number of counties that are "going solar" seems to be increasing at a fast pace. County solar demonstration projects, training programs, and consumer education efforts are flourishing, even in areas which lack considerable sunshine, or "insolation." In many areas, counties are promoting solar energy development without assistance from states or the federal government.

For example, Macomb County, Mich. spent $160,000 of its revenue sharing funds to construct a solar-heated and cooled satellite service center. To the delight of county officials, the original estimate of $250,000 was reduced to the lower figure by incorporating the solar collectors into the building's architectural plans. The system is expected to pay for itself within a decade. The accompanying photo indicates how the solar collectors can fit into an overall building design.

Incorporating solar energy with economic development is another popular idea. In Broome County, N.Y., "Operation Hot Box" provides disadvantaged youths with training in solar design and installation. The county hopes to establish a small business enterprise which would employ many low-income residents and would provide solar systems to low-income and elderly residents as part of a full-fledged house weatherization effort.

Nassau County, N.Y. has held workshops for architects and builders on solar system design and installation. The county energy office also publicizes federal solar demonstration grants and assists in grant applications.

Some counties have explored other avenues toward encouraging solar development. Pinellas County, Fla., for example, has promulgated a code setting standards for solar equipment sold in the county. Pitkin County, Colo. has pioneered the concept of sun access to zoning to ensure the right of sun access to citizens who install solar systems. And Los Angeles County has also adopted a solar building code governing construction and installation of solar systems in new buildings.

Using community development funds, Pierce County, Wash. installed solar heating in a senior citizens' center. The effort was a cooperative one between several county agencies and the local vocational and technical institute. Civic groups and senior citizens were also involved in the project, volunteering their expertise and support.

—Felicity Evans

Gas Ration Check Plan Would Allow 'White Market,' Hardship Exemptions

As required by the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, the Department of Energy (DOE) has proposed a standby gasoline rationing plan, which could go into effect 45 days after a major supply shortage.

Although the Federal Energy Administration under President Ford developed a standby rationing plan in 1976, President Carter assumed office before the earlier plan was submitted to Congress. Major differences between the Ford and the Carter plan are: the Carter plan would assign ration checks based on vehicle registration, not drivers' licenses; and ration checks would be printed with serial numbers to prevent counterfeiting. DOE estimates that the Carter plan would cost $100 million, and require approximately 5,000 federal employees, one-fourth of the personnel requirements under the Ford plan.

Under the proposed plan, basic entitlements would be given to each registered vehicle, except recreational vehicles. Trucks and buses would be given additional allotments; motorcycles would receive a smaller amount. Ration checks would be mailed quarterly to vehicle owners, who could cash them in at local banks and other institutions for coupons. These coupons must then be submitted, with cash, at the gas stations, and service station owners must submit the coupons received to the supplier. The "white market" concept, whereby consumers can buy and sell coupons freely to others, is designed to encourage greater conservation and reduce bureaucracy and thievery.

Under the plan, essential public services would merit top priority, so that fire and law protection, ambulance and sanitation services, and public transportation would not be affected. Provisions would also be made for firms with significant off-highway gasoline requirements, such as farmers, fishermen, and construction operators.

A national reserve would be established within the Economic Regulatory Agency (ERA) to deal with national disaster relief and to supply eligible vehicle owners, such as Indians living on reservation, who are not required to register their vehicles with the state.

Finally, each state will be given a state ration reserve for mitigating hardships. The physically handicapped, long-distance commuters, low-income, and elderly would qualify for special allotments from the state reserve, as would all others who could show recurring or one-time hardship needs. The state may delegate this function to local rationing boards, "provided that such boards are of balanced composition reflecting the community as a whole."

The national total of ration checks would vary according to ERA estimates of gasoline supplies available. Flexibility to meet changing supplies would be affected by shortening or lengthening the time period of the ration checks. All passenger and nonemergency government vehicles under 10,000 pounds would receive the same allotment figure. However, DOE is considering a "state adjustment factor" to provide for variations in gasoline requirements by state.

DOE is conducting public hearings throughout the nation on the proposed plan. Thereafter, DOE will submit the final plan to Congress for its approval. If approved by Congress, the plan will "sit on the shelf," to be used only in the event of another oil embargo, Middle East war, or similar crisis. If such an emergency does occur, the rationing system would be preceded by other, less harsh conservation measures.

EDA Offers Help in Local Energy Planning

The federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) is designed to help restore economic health to areas burdened with high unemployment. In addition, several EDA-sponsored programs can also serve local energy conservation goals.

For example, energy analyst Karl Kelly, of the Southwest Georgia Economic Development District, found that the local school system had not been claiming the cost of utilities used for the school lunch program. This oversight was largely due to the fact that there was no one who knew how to compute the usage.

Kelly came up with a methodology designed to prove the average hours of utilization. He provided the schools with an easy formula for computing the amount of BTUs used, multiplied by the rate, to determine the cost to feed the children. As a result, the school district has been able to claim $12,000 from the state department of education for the lunch program. On a smaller scale, an energy analyst can do anything from analyzing life-cycle costing of city-owned equipment to developing efficient garbage collection routes.

Kelly's services are provided to the Economic Development District (EDD) through the EDA's Public Services Grant Program (PSGP). Since its implementation in 1977, the PSGP has provided for employment of energy analysts to assist local governments in developing energy conservation programs and evaluating alternative energy sources. With the services of a full-time professional or technical staff person, the EDD can respond directly to the local governments which it serves.

The PSGP provides grants of $20,000 per year to selected EDDs for such programs as an energy analyst. The program will be refunded for fiscal '79. However, local governments can also join together and adopt the Public Services outline to employ such a professional on their own initiative without federal assistance. Both fuel conservation and energy impact planning are areas to which counties and municipalities could direct their attention.

Public Works Conservation

Recently the EDA has been successful in initiating several programs which incorporate energy conservation measures into public works programs. These programs can improve the immediate social conditions of an area as well as improving its consumption of precious fuels. While many of these projects will not be refunded for the upcoming fiscal year, they provide a valuable framework of action for counties and local governments.

One program which was used to build an energy conservation program was the Public Works Impact Program (PWIP). Under this one-shot program, PWIP generated short-term construction jobs while reducing county energy bills. PWIP served areas struck with high unemployment, low income, substantial population drop, or sudden loss of a major employer. PWIP projects successfully increased energy efficiency and generated a significant number of jobs in a distressed area. Among these projects were insulation, caulking, replacement of piping and ducts, and space remodeling. Even though refunding for PWIP is unlikely in the upcoming fiscal year, counties may seek to continue the program, or initiate a similar plan through other funding sources.

Energy Planning

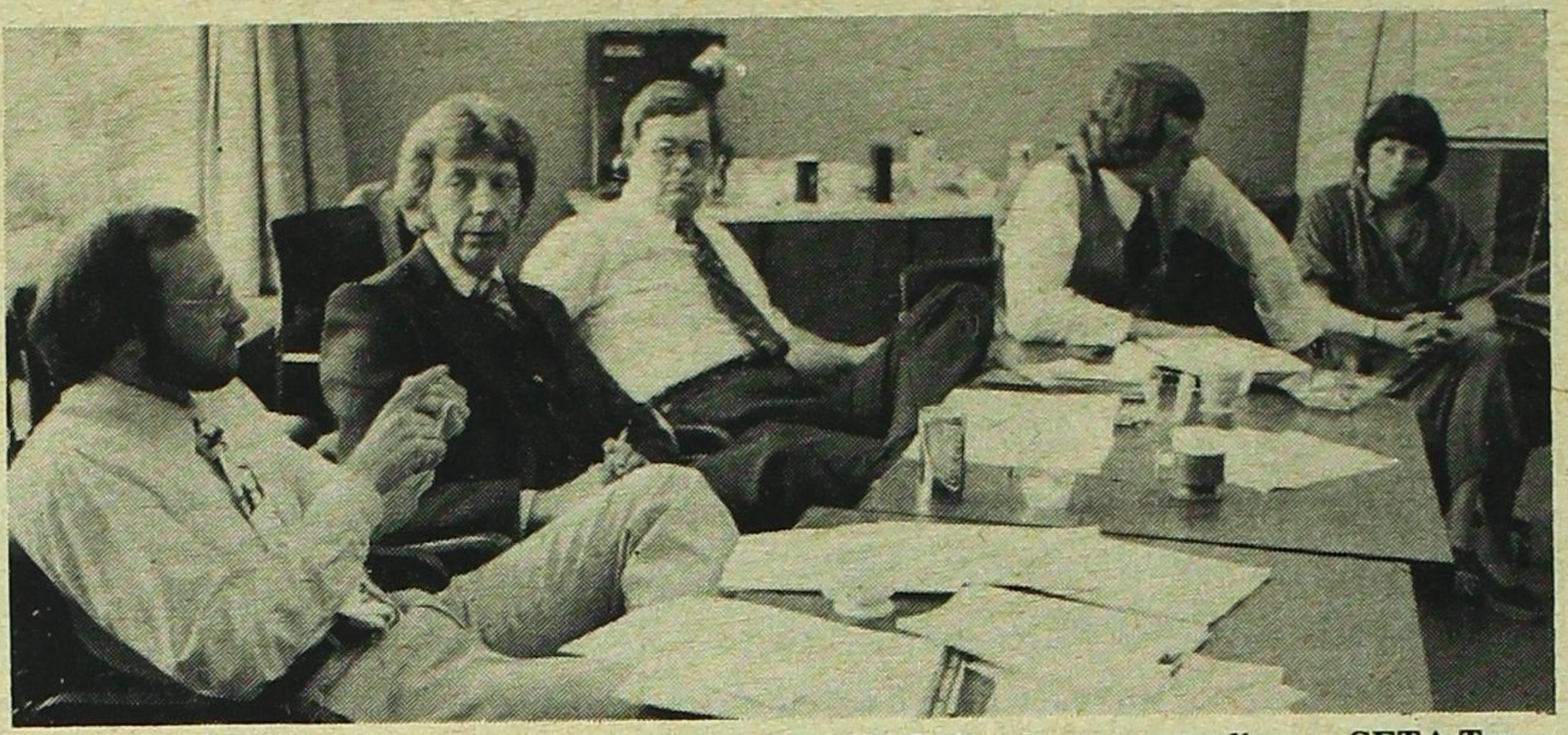
Energy use, whether it be residential, commercial, industrial or municipal, is a matter which deserves the full attention of county officials. Responsible energy planning, conservation initiatives, and cost-cutting go hand in hand with a thorough analysis of the region's energy situation. In the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District, for example, an EDA planning assistance grant has been used to examine the level of energy use and the pattern of that use in the manufacturing sector. Manufacturing was studied because it has the most direct effect on area employment and is the most energy-intensive of all classes. Results of the Puget Sound study should provide an important factor in formulating regional energy policy.

EDA also provides distressed areas with public works and development facilities needed to attract new industry and encourage business expansion. Effective energy management is a key factor in determining an area's attractiveness to business and industry. Unfortunately, funding for energy conservation projects, as for many other projects, is often difficult for many communities to obtain.

EDA funds are available only to predesignated areas within established Economic Development Districts. (If you are unsure of your classification, the regional EDA office nearest you can be contacted for information.)

—Mary Jane Hall

Suggestions for CETA Transition



The NACMO Issues Committee met Aug. 3 and 4 at NACo headquarters to discuss CETA Transition Issues. Seen from left are: Pat Moore, NACMO president, Mid-Willamette Consortium, Ore.; Ike Caudill and Virgil Osbourne, Eastern Kentucky CEP; Larry Buboltz, Rural Minnesota CEP; and Patricia Bambery, Washtenaw County, Mich.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The NACMO (National Association of County Manpower Officials) issues committee culminated a two-day meeting here Aug. 3 and 4 by presenting its concerns and recommendations to Labor Department officials on Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) transition policies, based on the requirements of the new legislation. A number of changes in the CETA operating rules will become effective next year and both CETA program operators and Department of Labor (DOL) administrators will have to revamp policies and procedures accordingly.

The NACMO issues committee meeting, chaired by Patricia Bambery of Washtenaw County, Mich., and attended by CETA officials from around the country concentrated on four primary issues: DOL-prime sponsor relations; paperwork and reporting requirements; administrative cost pooling; and grievance procedures. These issues were identified in NACMO meetings at the NACo annual conference in Atlanta in July.

DOL representatives were generally receptive to the committee's recommendations, but reserved their agreement until final language and provisions of the pending legislation have been established. DOL Administrator Hugh Davies emphasized that DOL will work closely with NACo as it develops regulations and policy for the coming year. Davies then outlined the DOL-CETA regulations schedule:

- **August-September**: meet with public interest groups for general input;
- **Early October**: first draft reviewed by assistant secretary;
- **Late October**: public interest group review of draft regulations;
- **Late November**: proposed regulations published in *Federal Register* for 60-day general review and comment;
- **Late February**: final regulations published;
- **April 1, 1979**: final regulations take effect.

The issues committee will meet again Sept. 6 in Savannah, Ga. in conjunction with a Southeastern Employment and Training Administrators (SETA) conference and NACMO Board meeting. The issues committee will focus on two more important transition issues: eligibility determination and verification, and public service employment management. All CETA officials are invited to attend and participate.

The following are the committee's recommendations:

Administrative Cost Pooling

- Title I should be the pool for all administrative costs from all CETA titles and programs.
- Once funds enter Title I, they should lose identity with their original source title.
- In case of excess allocation of Title I administrative funds, the prime sponsor should be able to transfer funds back into any title, provided that the original allocation to the grant is not exceeded.
- Uniform administrative definitions must be set up for all CETA programs; for example, allowable administrative costs must be uniform for all activities, service to client versus program costs must be the same, etc.
- Whether to require subagents to report administrative costs by title or allow cost pooling should be left to the discretion of prime sponsors.
- Administrative expenditures within Title I should be reported according to current practice or Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standard budget form for federal application.

Paperwork and Reporting

- The prime sponsors should submit not more than one planning document, the Prime Sponsor Agreement, covering all programs and modified only when system or program changes require. The PSA would include all pertinent information regarding the prime sponsor jurisdiction and a comprehensive strategic plan.
- The prime sponsor should submit an Annual Plan which will include only a program planning summary, a budget information summary, and a brief narrative for all programs.
- The Prime Sponsor Agreement and the Annual Plan should be mutually binding unless changes are agreed to in writing by both parties.
- Local flexibility within the law should be maximized to determine the composition and structural relationships among all planning councils.
- By May 15, DOL should publish and distribute in the *Federal Register* its Annual Plan, regulations, and standards for the coming year only to be changed legislatively.
- Solicitation for grant applications should be standardized in terms of format and information requirements to facilitate planning and reporting and to achieve a higher quality of discretionary program development.
- To the maximum extent of the law, DOL should provide for locally defined performance goals assessed on a planned versus actual experience basis and allowing for recognition of external local condition changes subsequent to original plan.
- There is a need for consistent reporting (i.e., from title to title as well as over the period of the grant) and evaluation procedures for all titles.
- Reports shall be required on a quarterly basis only unless corrective action has been initiated or as required by law (no verbal reports).

Rule of Thumb: All documents should be developed on a need-to-know basis.

DOL-Prime Sponsor Relations

- DOL should formally adopt a policy of formulating a partnership with prime sponsors in the planning of employment and training programs.
- DOL should seek prime sponsor input and establish policy review groups at all levels—area offices for operations, regional offices and the national office.
- These review groups should be composed of prime sponsor directors selected from the jurisdictional area in a representative fashion; should meet at least once a month; should provide the department with proactive and reactive input on all major issues affecting prime sponsor operations; and should be chaired by a prime sponsor director selected by a vote of the group's membership.
- DOL should utilize ad hoc work groups of prime sponsor directors in instances where specific issues are in need of in-depth planning development. The ad hoc work groups should be constituted in a representative fashion, and should meet a sufficient number of times to assure adequate opportunities for input. Sufficiency of meetings should be determined by consensus of the ad hoc committee.
- DOL should assure that all prime sponsors have both an opportunity to comment on major areas of policy planning and are treated uniformly in the planning process. The department should extend provisions governing review and comment procedures of regulations to field memoranda and regional office directives. Field memoranda and/or regional office directives that carry the force of program regulations should be included as regulations within 90 days of issuance or cease to exist.

Grievance Procedures

- The regional administrator in agreement with the regional solicitor should have authority to dispose of frivolous complaints and grievances.
- Any violation of state or local law should be investigated by appropriate state and local authority. DOL should restrict itself to grant related issues.
- As a general principle, there should be only one investigation at a time.
- There should be a standard set for a small percentage of acceptable ineligibility based on good faith screening.
- There should be clearly established procedures on verification of eligibility.
- Prime sponsors should be allowed to use CETA funds to pay back wages when a local decision has been made through due process pending resolution of the case.
- There should be incentives for prime sponsor to ferret out abuses. Prime sponsors should not be liable for subagent abuses they discover and vigorously pursue. The 60-day grace period for Title VI should be extended to all titles of CETA.

Job Opportunities

Emergency Response Planner, Yellow Creek Watershed Authority, Miss. Salary $16,500. One-year project to develop three countywide emergency response implementive plans, integrating EMS rural fire protection and law enforcement rapid response units. Master's degree in planning, public administration, or related field desirable, but significant accomplishments more important. Resume to: Ed Hunley, Executive Director, Yellow Creek Watershed Authority, P.O. Box 335, Iuka, Miss. 38852.

Director of Purchasing, DuPage County, Ill. Salary $19,698 to $25,147. Department head reporting to county board. Responsible for all purchases, service contracts, some construction contracts, central storeroom, mailroom and delivery, and dock receiving and shipping. Looking for potential CPPO, degree in business or public administration, 10 or more years government purchasing desired. Resume and three letters of recommendation to Ms. Mary Ann Matthews, Director of Personnel, 421 North County Farm Rd., Wheaton, Ill. 60187.

Solid Waste Engineer, Hillsborough County, Fla. $17,513 to $22,339. Bachelor's degree in engineering with five years professional engineering experience of which three years must have involved duties directly related to solid waste. Additional experience may substitute for college. Resume to: Hillsborough County Civil Service, Box 1110, Tampa, Fla. 33601.

Director of Administrative Services, Seminole County, Fla. Salary $19,000 to $26,000. Responsible for coordinating studies, research, reports, surveys, analysis and other assignments in governmental administration. Also responsible for the supervision of the building maintenance division, board of county commissioners staff office, employee's and county's self-insurance programs and support services. Bachelor's degree in public administration, business administration, or related field and a minimum of five years of progressively responsible management experience as director of a major organizational unit of government. Resume to Seminole County Personnel Office, County Courthouse, North Park Ave., Sanford, Fla. 32771.

Counties and Clean Air

Clean Air Meetings

NACoR's Clean Air Project has organized three clean air meetings for the month of September. The meetings will discuss the growth, fiscal, transportation, and health impacts of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1977, and will focus on issues of special interest to counties in the states where meetings are held.

New York:

Sept. 18, from 2 to 5 p.m., at the Fall Seminar of the New York State Association of Counties. To be held at the Concord Hotel, in Kiamesha Lake, N.Y. For Fall Seminar registration information:

New York State Association of Counties
150 State Street
Albany, N.Y. 12207
(518) 465-1473

Ohio:

Sept. 20, from 9 to 4 p.m. A special, one-day meeting at the Carrousel Inn in Columbus, Ohio. Sponsored by the County Commissioners' Association of Ohio. For registration information, contact:

A. R. Maslar, Executive Director
County Commissioners' Association of Ohio
M-58 Neil House
41 S. High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 221-5627

Florida:

Sept. 29, from 3 to 4 p.m., at the Annual Conference of the State Association of County Commissioners of Florida. To be held at the Bahia Mar Yachting Center in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. For Annual Conference registration information, contact:

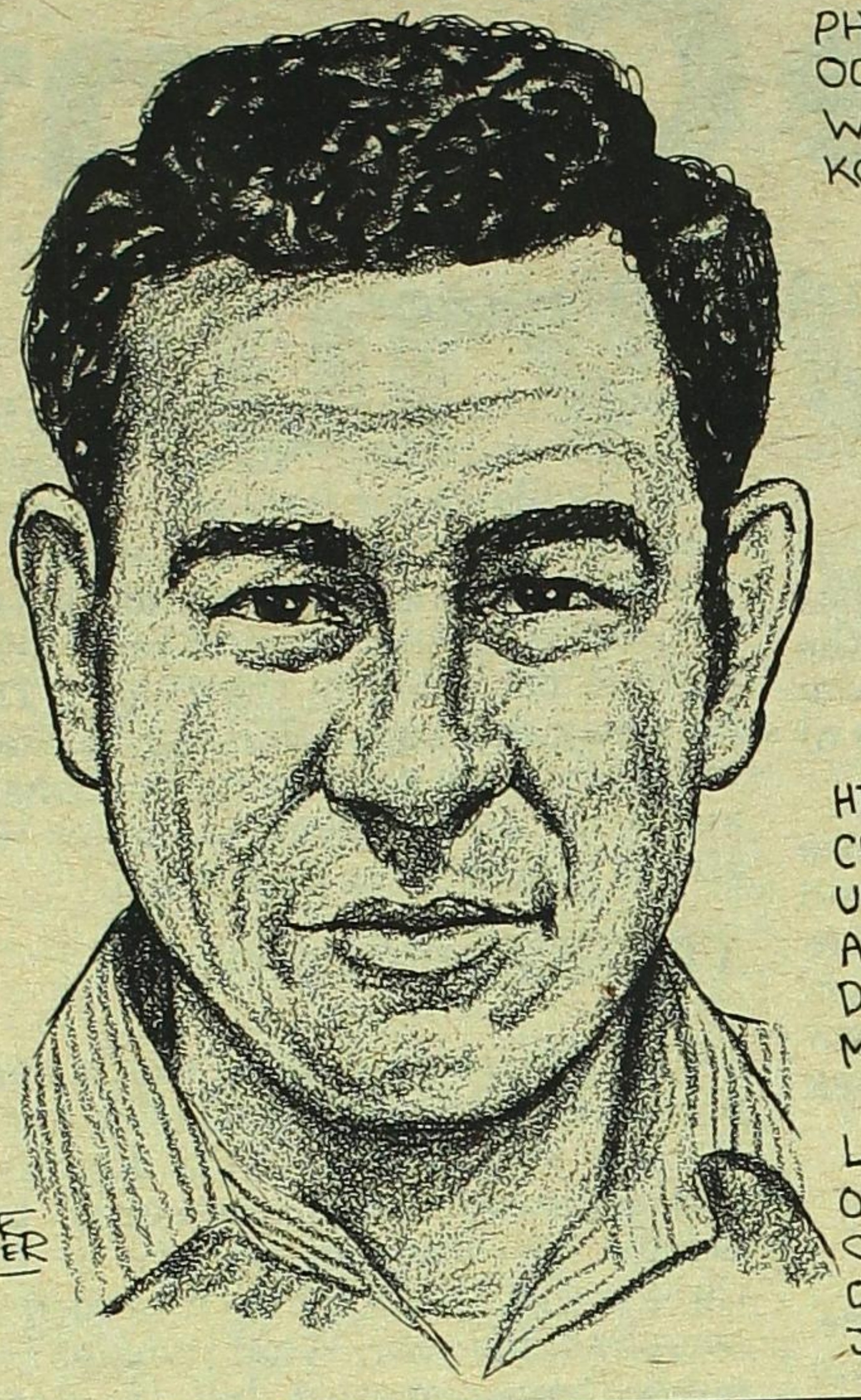
John Thomas, Executive Director
State Association of County Commissioners of Florida
P.O. Box 549
Tallahassee, Fla. 32302
(904) 224-3148

State Executive Closeup

Philip Larragoite

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NEW MEXICO
ASSOCIATION of COUNTIES

AN EXPERT IN THE AREA OF LAND TITLES, LARRAGOITE SERVED AS SUPERVISOR OF TITLE EXAMINERS FOR THE NEW MEXICO STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION. HE WAS PRESIDENT OF THE GALLUP TITLE COMPANY, PRESIDENT OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN ABSTRACT COMPANY, PUBLISHER OF RIMAC, INC.---A MINERAL REPORTING PUBLICATION---AND AN ABSTRACTOR AND MANAGER OF THE FEDERAL ABSTRACT COMPANY. HE DID A LAND STUDY ON PANAMA FOR THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. HE HAS ALSO DONE LAND TITLE WORK IN COSTA RICA AND MEXICO.



PHIL SERVED IN THE U.S. ARMY FROM OCTOBER 5, 1946 TO MARCH 25, 1948, WHICH INCLUDED SERVICE IN SEOUL, KOREA, WHERE HE ATTENDED SCHOOL.

PRIOR TO HIS MILITARY SERVICE, LARRAGOITE WORKED AS GENERAL ACCOUNTANT WITH A SANTA FE, N.M., FIRM OF REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND AS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE SANTA FE BOYS CLUB.

HE ATTENDED ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE IN SANTA FE AND HAS TAKEN SPECIALIZED COURSES IN TITLE EXAMINATION.

HE AND HIS WIFE, MARGARET, HAVE THREE CHILDREN: PHILIP, A STUDENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO; MARCELLA AND MELISSA. THEY ALSO HAVE A GRANDDAUGHTER, MARISA, THE DAUGHTER OF MARCELLA AND ANTHONY HAGIN.

LARRAGOITE HAS SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE GOVERNOR'S LIQUOR LAW STUDY COMMITTEE AND AS A CHARTER MEMBER OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING.

COURT-RELATED ISSUES

More Local Control Urged for Mont.

HILL COUNTY, Mont.—A record number of resolutions urging more local control of county programs were passed by the Montana Association of Counties (MACo) during its 69th Annual Convention.

Given first priority among the resolutions was one to clarify the district judges' budget authority.

The resolution urges "that MACo request the 1979 Legislature to clarify the budget responsibility of the Board of County Commissioners and eliminate any authority of the district judges to exceed their budget duly adopted by the board, and that judges of the judicial districts be prevented from issuing court orders overruling the commissioners on budget matters."

Second priority was given to a resolution "that the Legislature consider setting up a fund similar to the poor fund for court-related expenses with a fixed number of mills that could be levied by the county, and that after a county exhausted its source of funds, grants-in-aid would be allowed from the state general fund." The resolution addresses the problem of an individual county which may be faced with unusually large financial burdens as the result of special trials.

A related resolution notes that district judges may sentence felony prisoners to up to one year in county jails instead of state prisons, and asks the legislature to discourage the practice or else to require the state to reimburse counties for prisoners on an actual cost basis.

Also, commissioners resolved that the Legislature instruct district judges to order mental health evaluations for defendants at local mental health centers when possible, and when an evaluation must be performed at the State Mental Institution, the state pay for the evaluation.

A highlight of the convention was the appearance of Gov. Thomas Judge.

Delegates to the convention also had a chance to questions members of interim legislative committees about taxing problems, local government laws and funding for human services.

In response to worries about lack of representation in federal government hearings affecting Montana's resources, delegates voted to send a telegram to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission strongly urging that hearings relative to the Kerr Dam Indian rentals be held in Montana. Delegates also went on record asking that all federal regulatory agencies addressing problems that directly affect the people of Montana be held at a location in Montana to ensure input from all citizens.

WILLIAM BRINKEL, chairman of the Stillwater County Board of Commissioners, was elected president. Other officers elected include: First Vice President Kenneth Coulter, chairman of the Garfield County Board of Commissioners; Second Vice President John G. Nesbo, Toole County commissioner; and Fiscal Officer Larry D. Anderson, Liberty County commissioner. Past President is Myron E. "Mike" McClintock, Yellowstone County commissioner. R. Dean Zinnecker is MACo executive director.

—Margaret Taylor
State Association Liaison

MACo OFFICERS—The 1978-79 officers of the Montana Association of Counties include, from left: Fiscal Officer Larry Anderson; Past President Myron E. "Mike" McClintock; President William Brinkel; First Vice President Kenneth Coulter; and Second Vice President John G. Nesbo.

New Committees for Georgia Counties

GEORGIA—The president of the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG), Charles Kent, has made a number of committee appointments. Kent, Tift County Commission chairman, is a member of the NACo board.

Instead of a single Legislative Committee as has been appointed in previous years, ACCG will have a Congressional Action Committee and a State Legislative Affairs Committee. Other standing committees include the Energy Action Committee, a Transportation Committee, and a special Study Committee on Personnel Systems.

ACCG is also activating an ad hoc committee to draw a bill permitting counties to invoke penalties for ordinance violation. With counties' increasing involvement in codes, clear-cut means of enforcement are needed, officials say. Many lack the statutory or constitutional authority to ensure compliance with the various local regulations they adopt.

Co-chairmen of the Legislative Affairs Committee are Mayor Jack Mickle of Columbus-Muscogee and Commissioner Travis Barnes of Richmond County. Chairman of the Congressional Action Committee is Gil Barrett, Dougherty County commissioner and past president of NACo.

N.M. Counties Elect Officers

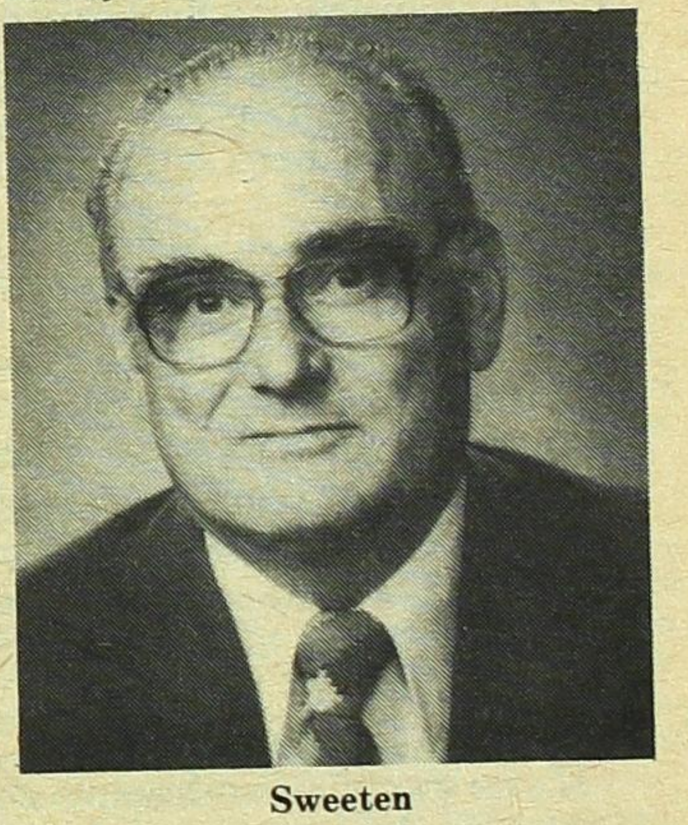
NEW MEXICO—The 1978-79 officers of the New Mexico Association of Counties include President James R. Williams, chairman of the Curry County Commission; First Vice President Bettye B. White, Eddy County treasurer; Second Vice President Dan Gutierrez, District Court clerk of the 11th Judicial District from McKinley County; Treasurer Dorothy G. Gallegos, Santa Fe County assessor; and Assistant Treasurer Danny Ortiz, Santa Fe County clerk.

Philip P. Larragoite is executive director of the association.

Members of the board of trustees include: Ervin Goodwin, San Juan County assessor; Judy B. Martinez, San Miguel County clerk; Lloyd Payne, Bernalillo County accountant; Pauline Clark, Roosevelt County treasurer; Petra Estrada, Sixth Judicial District Court clerk from Hidalgo County; and Virginia Yearley, Otero County administrative assistant.

Affiliate chairmen for the 1978-79 year are: George L. Straley Jr., Lincoln County commissioner; Leah G. Jones, Luna County clerk; Bob Isaacks, Dona Ana County deputy assessor; La Honda Fox, De Baca County treasurer; Leroy Carpenter, Chaves County sheriff; Arthur Ortiz, Santa Fe County probate judge; Petra Estrada, Sixth Judicial District Court clerk from Hidalgo County; Bill Lane, Luna County road superintendent; John P. Montoya Jr., Santa Fe County surveyor; Jack Wallace, Cooperative Extension Service at New Mexico State University; George Wolf, McKinley County manager; and David W. Bonem, Ninth Judicial District attorney from Curry County.

Robert Isaacks, Dona Ana County deputy assessor, is chairman of the association's Revenue and Taxation Committee. Vice chairman is Clyde "Red" Arsbon, chairman of the Lea County Commission.



Sweeten

New Exec for Idaho Counties

IDAHO—Colen H. Sweeten Jr. has been named executive director of the Idaho Association of Counties.

Sweeten replaces Dean Huntsman, who resigned May 15 to take a full-time position as regional commodity manager in the welfare program of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Sweeten, 59, was the clerk of the District Court in Oneida County from November 1957 to July 1978. He was president of the Idaho Association of Recorders and Clerks in 1962-63. While president of the Idaho Association of Commissioners and Clerks in 1974-75, he served as a director on the board of NACo's Western Interstate Region.

A lifetime resident of Idaho, he attended schools in Malad. During World War II, he served in the Army as a radar operator in the 69th Anti-Aircraft Gun Battalion. Sweeten has served as a missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and has been active in Boy Scouts, the American Legion and the Search and Rescue League.

A Weekly Report

Legislative Countdown

by Bernard F. Hillenbrand, NACo Executive Director

At this writing the House is in recess and the Senate is scrambling with dozens of major measures in order to get home for the Labor Day weekend. The Senate is paying the price in this sweltering, pollution-choked city for the prolonged debate on the Panama Canal and the filibuster on the labor legislation.

The senators grow testy as they work late into the night on such far-reaching measures as school impact aid, court-ordered busing and energy tax credits. Crowded into their legislative schedule are major bills for counties like CETA reauthorization. At this writing we have no clear idea of what changes could be in store for such legislation.

What does this mean for county officials? It seems to me that what we need most is a continuous dialogue between the county commission and the congressional delegation. Since there is a real possibility of a postal strike after Labor Day, much of this contact may have to be made by telephone.

In short, in the hectic, tension-filled weeks ahead as Congress tries to wrap up a tidal wave of legislation, it is imperative for county officials to keep reminding their delegation that much of this legislation is crucial to county governments.

Specifically here is where we are.

CETA

In view of the fact that House amendments to CETA are crippling to public service jobs for counties and cities, we must come out of the Senate with a very strong bill. Our Senate strategy is to maintain the wage and job levels in S. 2570, the CETA bill reported out of the Senate Human Resources Committee.

If the same amendments that were passed in the House are also passed in the Senate, the ball game is over for any meaningful participation of counties in the CETA program.

CETA shifts back to the House after the Labor Day recess. It is vital that county officials contact their representatives to impress on them the impacts on their counties of a butchered CETA program. Fifty percent or more of the House delegations in 36 states voted for the disastrous Obey and Jeffords amendments which put severe limits on public service wages and cut the number of public service jobs nationally. Unless some of these votes can be turned around we are in for even more serious cuts in the program when the House brings CETA back to the floor.

PUBLIC WORKS

The prospect for congressional action on a public works bill grows dim. (See article on page 3.) The Senate subcommittee on community and regional development last week was unable to muster the necessary votes to approve the NACo-endorsed, Administration's labor intensive public works proposal.

Sentiment on the House side is favorable to a public works bill, but there is growing awareness in the Senate that some Republicans consider the bill unnecessary because of improved economic conditions.

It is again very important for those counties suffering persistent and severe unemployment—and there are many—to contact their representatives and senators and explain how important this legislation is "back home."

COUNTERCYCLICAL AID

The countercyclical aid measure, sponsored by Sens. William Hathaway (D-Maine), Edmund Muskie (D-Maine), and Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.), is the most viable prospect of continuing the current fiscal aid program.

The legislation is expected to reach the Senate floor shortly after Labor Day recess. The bill would extend assistance for two years. It retains the 6 percent national unemployment trigger as well as the 4.5 percent rate for local government eligibility. The bill also contains a second title which would continue to provide aid to state and local governments when unemployed for two consecutive calendar quarters is between 5 percent and 6 percent.

Again, not all counties and cities have shared in the improved economic picture. It is important that this program, which NACo has termed "unemployment insurance for local governments," should continue to be available for hard-pressed communities or for other communities in the event of a sudden downturn in the national economy. Keep in mind that there is not a bill in the House. The only way this legislation can be enacted this year is passage by the Senate and some arrangement made for the House to accept the Senate bill.

TRANSPORTATION

The Senate has made significant progress in the transportation area. Having approved both its highway and highway safety measures, the Senate has wrapped up two of the three transportation bills it needed to complete this year. What remains is a public transportation bill (S. 2441) expected to be voted on either this week or after Labor Day. The bill contains both operating and capital assistance for public transportation programs. And for the first time, it includes operating funds for rural public transportation programs—a proposal which has been strongly supported by NACo.

But in the House, transportation proposals—both highways and public transportation—are rolled into one comprehensive bill (H.R. 11733) which has not yet been approved. The House is expected to act after Labor Day. Full floor action is needed quickly to ensure adequate time for a conference with the Senate.

The House bill contains authorizations for the interstate, primary, secondary, safety and bridge programs. Since the highway program authority runs out Oct. 1, county officials should urge their congressmen to consider this bill immediately.

BRIDGES

As you can see from the front page story, we have made good progress on bridges. The Senate has raised the authorization for bridges to $525 million and has made a more generous provision for distribution of these funds to off-system bridges (see page 4). The House version currently has a provision for $2 billion for bridges. But this amount may be reduced to $1.5 billion. In addition, the bill faces a threat made last week by OMB Director James McIntyre that the President will veto any bill that exceeds the presidential budget targets.

ENERGY IMPACT

Counties have been waiting two years for relief from the effects of skyrocketing development in energy boomtowns, largely in the coal regions of the United States. In a surprise move last week, the Senate Governmental Affairs subcommittee on energy got off dead center and acted on the energy impact assistance bill. It approved a last-minute bill by Sen. John Glenn (D-Ohio) over the original measure by Sen. Gary Hart (D-Colo.). The key difference between the bills was whether communities should be aided through grants or loans. After careful consideration, we conclude that the Hart bill is more advantageous for counties.

County officials from areas engaged in building facilities for energy boomtowns or communities anticipating such action should urge their congressional delegations to support the Hart version when the energy impact bill comes to the floor.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Nothing is happening. A bill to remove the five-year-old ceiling on federal social services dollars for local programs (Title XX) rests in the Senate Finance Committee. NACo presented a strong case for raising the ceiling in testimony last week. (See page 3.)

BULLETIN

President Carter signed into law last week the NACo-endorsed four-year authorization bill for the Bureau of Land Management. The bill, H.R. 10787, includes authorization through fiscal '82 for the payment-in-lieu of taxes program and for the Mineral Leasing Energy Impact Loan Program.

Bernie Hillenbrand

Time Is Running Out