



Rally speakers included, from left, NACo 2nd Vice President Charlotte Williams, commissioner, Genesee County, Mich.; Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan; John Klein, county executive, Suffolk County, N.Y.; Senate Minority Leader Howard Baker; NACo President William O. Beach, judge, Montgomery County, Tenn.; HEW Secretary Joseph Califano; Frank Jungas, commissioner, Cottonwood County, Minn.; James Hayes, supervisor, Los Angeles County, Calif. and New York

Mayor Abraham Beame. Other speakers (not pictured here) were Dan McCorquodale, supervisor, Santa Clara County, Calif.; Rep. Fortney "Pete" Stark; Alfred Del Bello, county executive, Westchester County, N.Y.; New York Lt. Gov. Mary Anne Krupsak and Bernard F. Hillenbrand, NACo executive director.

Rally Day in D.C.

- **Over 300 county officials hear welfare action rally speakers, page 3.**
- **Counties take their welfare reform positions to the Hill, page 4.**
- **Tell us what your congressman had to say, page 8.**

Thousands and Thousands

Cards Are Piling Up



County officials' month-long campaign to collect postcards and petitions urging welfare reform has peaked. Citizens across the nation peaked. NACo's welfare reform rally last week.

By the end of the day, it was estimated that county officials had brought with them more than 350,000 signatures—a total "far exceeding our expectations," said NACo executive director Bernard Hillenbrand.

The postcards and petitions filled 18 large plastic bags and five more bags. To be presented to President Carter, the postcards urge congressional action on welfare reform legislation, immediate fiscal relief for property taxpayers, and continued local control over jobs and training programs.

The campaign began in August when NACo distributed thousands of postcards to county officials from New York to California. These officials then began gathering signatures either door-to-door or at public places and meetings.

"The enormous success of this effort," said NACo President William Beach of Montgomery County, Tenn., "clearly indicates that there are a lot of concerned citizens out there."

Hillenbrand added that postcards continue to arrive in the mail "by the hundreds." Saying that "every name should be counted," he urged county officials who have not sent in their cards yet to do so. (County officials can clip the postcard printed at left.)

Both Hillenbrand and Beach said they wished to extend their "sincere and abundant thanks" to all the dedicated county officials "who made this campaign a success."

"Just looking at all these postcards," Hillenbrand added, "makes you realize how much hard work went into it."

Our thanks to the great number of county officials and citizen's who helped make the postcard effort such a success.

LET EVERY NAME BE COUNTED

Dear President Carter:
Welfare reform can't wait. We urge you and your Administration to work toward prompt congressional action:

- To insure significant and immediate fiscal relief for county governments; and
- To insure that decisions on jobs and training programs remain exclusively in the control of chief elected local officials.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

COUNTY _____ STATE _____

**Send Your
Cards to NACo
Headquarters**

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Rally Speakers Pledge Support

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph A. Califano joined with Sens. Daniel Patrick Moynihan and Howard Baker in echoing the theme "Welfare Reform Now" before more than 300 county officials "rallying" Sept. 21 at the Mayflower Hotel ballroom.

The rally was designed to focus attention on President Carter's welfare reform plan and to urge:

• Immediate fiscal relief through federal assumption of welfare costs for county governments which now rely on the limited property tax to finance assistance programs;

• Continued control of the jobs portion by chief local elected officials.

County officials came from across the country and brought with them nearly 350,000 signatures on postcards and petitions calling on Congress and the President to move quickly on welfare reform.

Also addressing the rally were New York Mayor Abraham D. Beame, Rep. Fortney H. (Pete) Stark (D-Calif.), and New York Lt. Gov. Mary Anne Krupsak.

RALLY PARTICIPANTS were welcomed by NACo President William O. Beach, Montgomery County, Tenn. judge, who said that county taxpayers have a great interest in welfare reform since \$6 billion is spent by local governments in providing public assistance.

Other county officials present on the platform to introduce featured speakers included: NACo 2nd Vice President Charlotte Williams, Genesee County (Mich.) commissioner; Commissioner Frank Jungas, Cottonwood County, Minn.; County Executive John V.N. Klein, Suffolk County, N.Y.; Supervisor James Hayes, Los Angeles County, Calif.; County Executive Alfred B. Del Bello, Westchester County, N.Y. and Supervisor Dan McCorquodale, Santa Clara County, Calif.

Califano said that he anticipated that a welfare reform bill would be ready for House consideration "before Christmas" and that a Senate committee will be holding hearings on the jobs portion of the reform proposal this fall.

The Secretary said local governments "had done a remarkable job administering the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) which involves 400,000 jobs," and that "it is very important to keep as many of these jobs as possible on a local and county level." (Labor Department officials have indicated that some decision-making on local job programs may be given to the governor of each state.)

Califano thanked county officials for their input into the welfare reform plan and said "we would not now have a welfare reform plan, if it weren't for county leaders and officials." To emphasize the interest of the Administration in county views, Califano mentioned that he had been scheduled to appear in Chicago and that the President had asked him to cancel the trip and appear before the rally.

THE SECRETARY listed three important aspects of the welfare reform proposal:

- Incentives to work;
- Incentive for families to stay together;
- Administrative simplification.

He said the errors in the welfare system exist despite the best efforts of local governments, states and cities to administer the regulations.

Pointing to a display of 75 feet of forms that an average welfare client in Los Angeles County must complete in order to receive assistance, he said, "The system is so complicated that it is remarkable that you do as well as you do."

Finally, Califano added that we must recognize that "nobody in this country wants to be poor" and that between 21 and 25 per cent of people in the country at any given time are at risk of being poor.

"We cannot continue to treat and subject that large a segment of this population to the kind of demeaning, hostile treatment they are subjected to simply to receive adequate funds to live, feed themselves and feed their children..."

SEN. MOYNIHAN (D-N.Y.) called on President Carter to honor his commitment to the Democratic party platform plank which says "...As an interim step, and as a means of providing immediate federal fiscal relief to state and local governments, local governments should no longer be required to bear the burden of welfare costs."

Saying that the President has provided us with a solid start, Moynihan added, "Now we must sustain the momentum. Your presence in Washington today at tests to the importance that the counties assign to welfare reform."

He recalled that in July 1970 he predicted before a group meeting in Washington, D.C. that if welfare reform were not enacted that year, it probably would not become law in this decade.

"I am here today," he said, "to prove my prophecy wrong."

Moynihan said a major shortcoming in the President's plan is that no fiscal relief will become available until 1981. He has proposed \$1 billion in federal matching funds for the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program that would provide some relief to states and localities that share the cost of this program.

The Moynihan amendment is included in a Senate Finance Committee bill that is expected to be reported out soon.

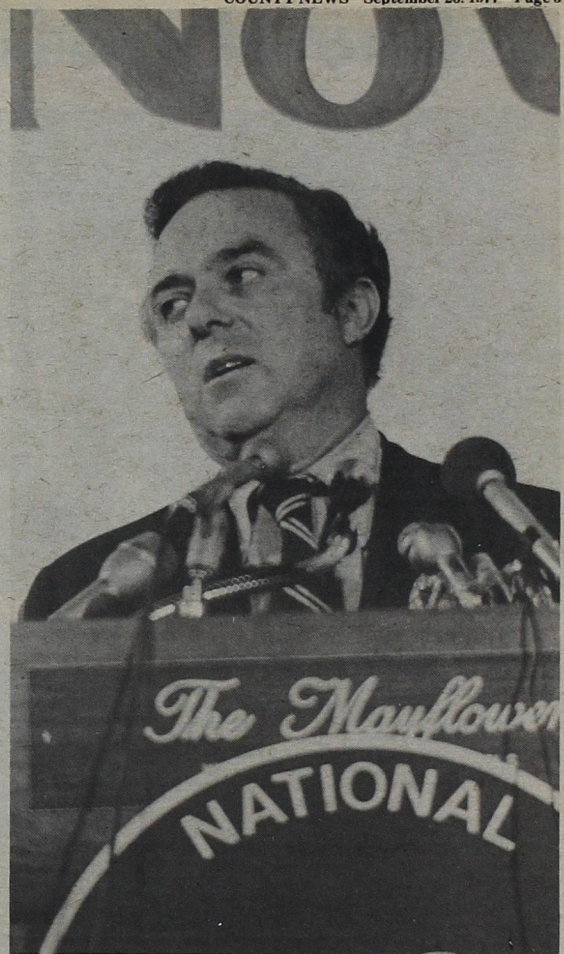
As modified in committee, the second half of the billion dollars would be tied to continued reduction of welfare "error rates" and would, thus, "provide a sizable incentive for improvement in that area," he said.

Moynihan said that welfare reform failed in the past because the subject was caught between the right and the left—and there was nowhere to go but down. "Already, there are signs of misalignment among my Congressional colleagues."

Moynihan called on the audience to help sustain the momentum for welfare reform by continuing to put pressure on their senators and representatives.

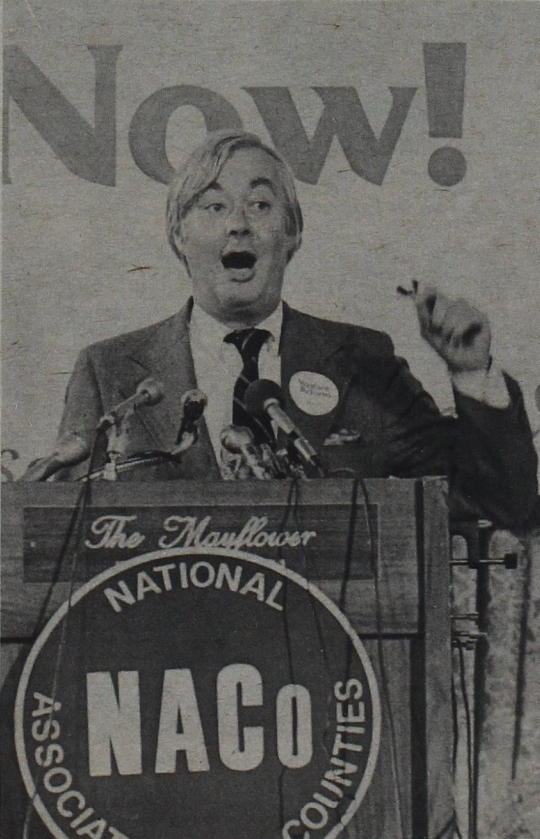
SEN. BAKER (R-Tenn.) echoed the comments of the other rally speakers: "something must be done to the delivery of the welfare system so that it is administered fairly and equitably to the American people."

See **SPEAKERS**, page 6.

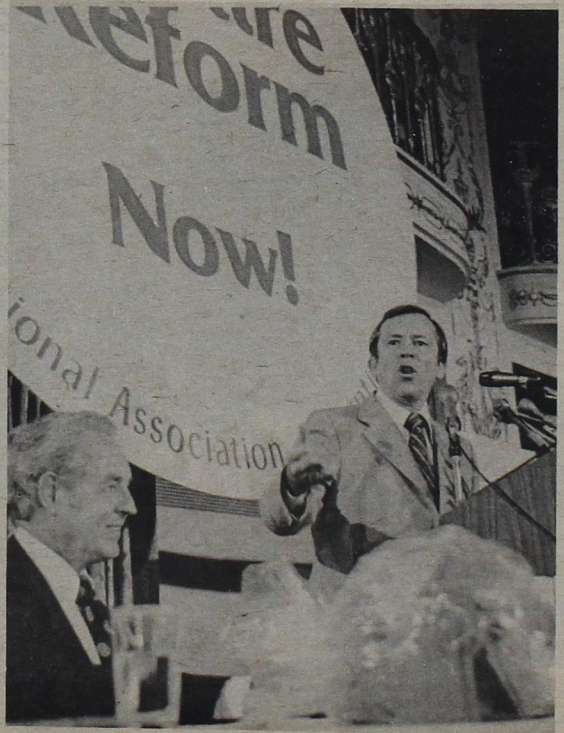


HEW Secretary Joseph Califano

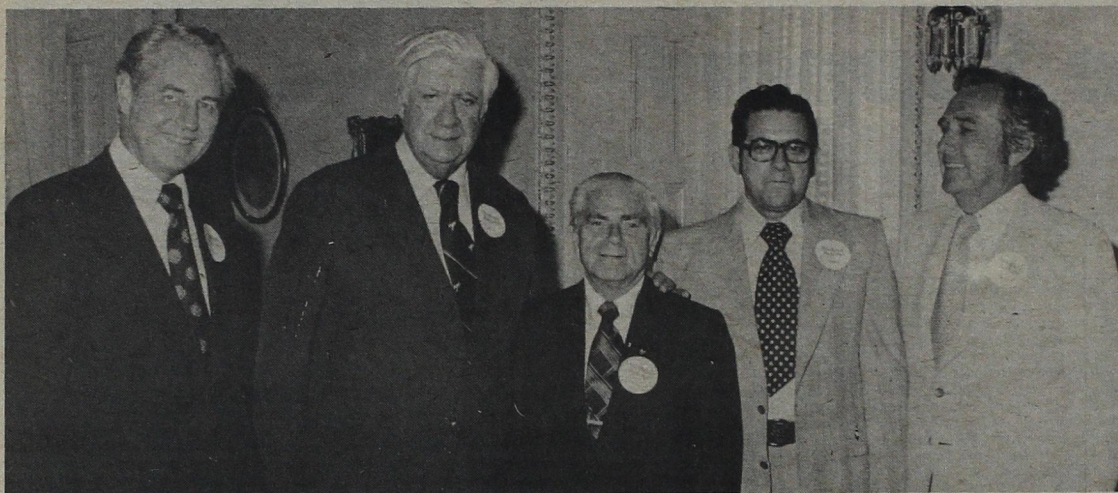
"We would not now have a welfare plan if it weren't for county leaders and officials," said Califano.



TWO SENATORS GIVE VIEWS—Sen. Moynihan (above), who has proposed \$1 billion in immediate fiscal relief, and Sen. Baker (right), call for a fair and equitable welfare system.



County Officials Talk Welfare



New York Mayor Abraham Beame and key NACo officials met with House Speaker Thomas P. (Tip) O'Neill (D-Mass.) to discuss his views on welfare reform. Seen from left are: William Beach, NACo president, O'Neill, Beame, Frank Jungas, chairman, Welfare and Social Services Steering Committee and Bernard F. Hillenbrand, executive director. Mayor Beame pointed out that while fiscal relief in welfare reform has some way to go, the Moynihan amendment to House-passed H.R. 7200 that includes \$1 billion to meet the immediate needs of local governments would be of great interim benefit to local officials. He expressed concern, however, that the passage of H.R. 7200 is now endangered by other Senate amendments. Speaker O'Neill indicated his interest in preserving the House version of the bill and said he would be working toward this end with Rep. James Corman, chairman of the welfare reform subcommittee. The Speaker offered his full support for the concept of welfare reform and for the President's proposal. "I am from a large metropolitan area. No one understands the total problem more than I do," he added.



Sen. Russell Long (D-La.) in a meeting with Frank Jungas, Cottonwood County, Minn., left, and Keith Comrie, Los Angeles County, Calif., right, expressed strong support for control of jobs and welfare programs by local elected officials. Long indicated he has serious reservations about adopting the President's entire welfare reform package, but agreed to the need for fiscal relief. See Washington Briefs, H.R. 7200, page 8.



James Hayes, left, supervisor, Los Angeles County, Calif., explains to Rep. James Corman (D-Calif.), chairman of the new House subcommittee on welfare reform, the excessive burden placed on Los Angeles County by the present welfare system.



Virginia county officials heard Rep. Joseph L. Fisher (D-Va.), left, say that he thinks the President's welfare reform proposal is promising, but that he is withholding final judgment on details until after hearings are held. To the right of Fisher are: Aliceann Fritschler, NACo associate director, welfare and social services; Joy Silver, assistant to Fisher; John A. Campbell, Prince William County budget officer, and Carol Thompson, seated, director of social services in Surry County. Fisher, a former county official, urged NACo to support the \$1 billion in fiscal relief proposed by the President.

Reform with Their Congressmen



Meeting with Sen. William D. Hathaway (D-Maine), Paula McMartin, NACO legislative assistant, expressed concern that H.R. 7200, The Public Assistance Amendments of 1977, which includes vital funding for Title XX (Social Services) may be endangered because of complex Social Security and fiscal relief amendments. Hathaway, a member of the public assistance subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee, responded that any hope he sees of getting H.R. 7200 passed is by accepting the Senate version in conference committee.



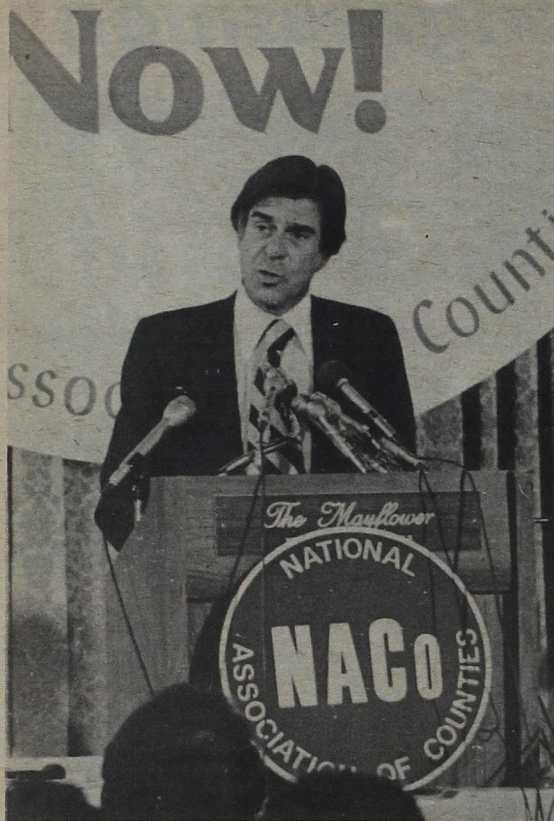
House Majority Leader Jim Wright (D-Tex.), left, agrees that there is great need for simplification of the welfare system. At a meeting with (from left) Gayle McNutt, Washington representative, Harris County, Tex., Doris Dealaman, Somerset County, N.J. and Dan McCorquodale, Santa Clara County, Calif., discussion focused on the excessive paperwork which keeps caseworkers from spending enough time on client problems. Added Wright, "We must refrain from the temptation to add reams and reams of bureaucratic rules."



Rep. Richard Nolan of Minnesota, seated in center, pledged his support for speedy welfare reform to Frank Jungas, chairman of NACO's Welfare and Social Services Steering Committee and commissioner, Cottonwood County, Minn., seated at right. Accompanying Jungas were, from left, Tom Lindquist, Scott County, Bill Brumfield, Hennepin County, and Tony Worms and Elizabeth Pink, Scott County. Nolan is a member of the special House welfare reform subcommittee. He assured the Minnesotans that the House would act quickly on welfare reform with Dec. 22 as the target date for reporting a bill. He noted that subcommittee members will hold hearings around the country to ensure local input. Nolan said he is concerned about some of the earned income tax credit provisions of the bill but is optimistic about passage early next year.



NACO representatives met with Rep. Al Ullman (D-Ore.), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. At left (moving clockwise) are Doris Dealaman, Somerset County, N.J.; Alfred Del Bello, Westchester County, N.Y.; Ullman; Lynn Cutler, Black Hawk County, Minn. and Frank Jungas, Cottonwood County, Minn. Although in basic agreement with NACO's objectives of fiscal relief to counties and local control of jobs, Ullman takes issue with some aspects of the Administration's welfare reform proposal. Said Ullman, "I am not in accord with the guaranteed income schedule as a centerpiece for the program. I have great concern about work supplements to the working poor. There is no way the government can stay on top of individual monthly incomes." Ullman feels that the jobs portion of the proposal will need "far more coordination in the future than we have had in the past." He also sees a need to emphasize private sector employment if the jobs portion is to be successful.



Rep. Fortney "Pete" Stark (D-Calif.) says Tell your representatives and senators: if we can afford a congressional pay raise, we can afford welfare reform and fiscal relief for local property taxpayers.

Speakers Support Reform

Continued from page 3.

He said that Americans, led by local government officials, must fight shoulder to shoulder to get welfare reform legislation passed, a piece of legislation that "we can look back on in five or 10 years from now and say that [the system] is fair, generous and humane."

He said that welfare reform should not be a partisan effort.

County officials were told by Stark to "get tough" and demand welfare reform. He stressed that legislators have to be informed of the problems in the welfare system and should be "pressured" into bringing about change as part of this "get tough" tactic.

Stark said that anyone interested and involved in welfare reform should have a list of all congressmen who voted for their own pay raises, and the congressmen who are planning to hold back a "few measly bucks" to help counties; then their constituents back home should hear about it.

"You should ask your congressman to go home and meet and see the people who have to fill out the forms, or go see what it's like to live on \$5,700 or \$4,800 a year, and then ask him again how he's going to vote."

IF WELFARE reform legislation is passed, local officials have to change the public's idea of the welfare recipient, Stark said. The myth of the recipient as a cheat and the myth of the Cadillac-driving welfare mother have to be shattered.

"There are about 20 per cent of the people on welfare who don't have the job opportunities, the education, the will to set an example for their children, and a work ethic." There is a need for legislation to instill this through a decent welfare system, Stark said.

IN A SHORT statement, John V.N. Klein, chairman of NACo's Employment Steering Committee, told the rally participants that Labor Secretary Ray Marshall could not attend the rally because he was testifying in support of welfare reform at that time before the select House subcommittee on welfare reform.

Marshall was scheduled to talk about the jobs portion of the Administration's welfare plan.

"From the county point of view," Klein said, "welfare reform and national employment programs are completely interwoven and must result in a complementary mix of assistance and jobs."

As an example of the county financial burden, Klein said that "Suffolk County will consume \$110 million in 1977 on the public assistance side alone exclusive of Medicaid, of which \$31 million is hard property tax dollars off the backs of taxpayers, and which is 56 per cent of the county property tax levy."

New York's Mayor Beame acknowledged that "the federal government is aware of the needs of two parents households, the working poor and persons without children. This recognition will foster family stability."

However, he said, President Carter's proposal "falls far short of a federal assumption of local welfare costs. For example, in New York City, we anticipate that there will be at best a 35 per cent relief of the local welfare burden." Some financial inadequacies of the program, he said, result from the 1981 implementation date, federal grant levels which fail to recognize regional differences, and the failure to require states to pass savings on to localities before taking care of their own expenditures.

Beame emphasized three steps that can be taken to hasten the

federal assumption of welfare costs. "First, we can try to convince the President and Congress to have a completed welfare reform program in place by Oct. 1, 1979. Second, we can ask Congress to pass the Moynihan fiscal relief proposal which would give cities, counties and states some most welcome interim assistance. ... [and] we must press for a mandated 100 per cent pass-through to localities."

LT. GOV. Krupsak called the present welfare system an "administrative nightmare" which falls within jurisdiction of 9 federal departments, 21 congressional committees, 54 state welfare agencies and more than 3,000 local welfare offices. "We face a system of institutionalized disincentives toward work and the maintenance of family life for those receiving assistance," she said.

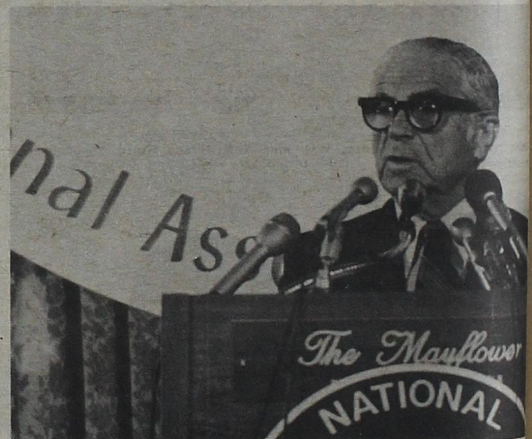
She noted that it is not only local welfare officials who are inundated with forms to fill out. The state role in assistance programs also calls for excessive paperwork. Removing this burden from the state would make it more palatable for states to agree to the pass-through of funds to the local level.

Addressing the "geographic isolationism" the welfare system has caused, she described the recent shift in population from urban to rural, from North and East to the mountain states and the South. This creates a lopsided system of benefits. In 24 states, recipients of welfare are still at only three-fourths of the poverty level.

After the morning rally, the delegates were bused to Capitol Hill to keep appointments with their congressmen, with special emphasis on those members who will be conducting hearings and working toward enactment of a welfare reform bill.



John Klein, Suffolk County, N.Y. executive, unrolls 25,000 Suffolk County signatures on a petition for swift action on welfare reform.



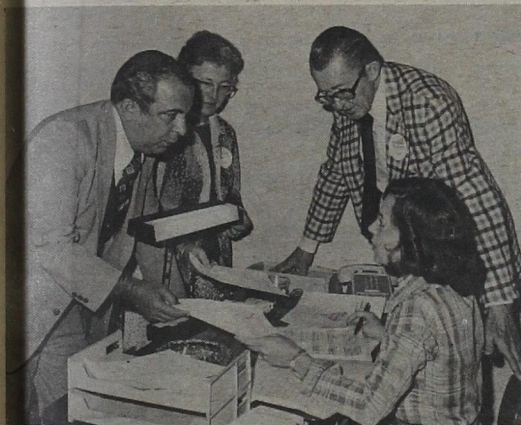
New York Mayor Abraham Beame brought over 100,000 cards to the rally signed by New York City residents and calling on President Carter to keep his campaign promise to provide fiscal relief to local government.



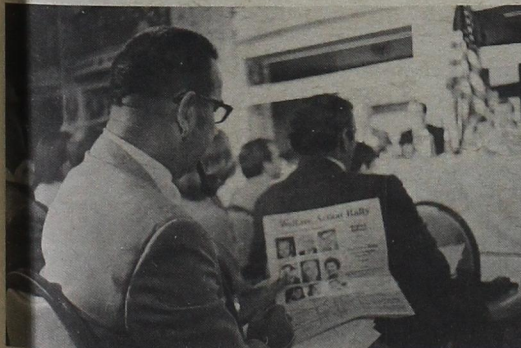
New York Lt. Gov. Mary Anne Krupsak supports 100 per cent pass-through of fiscal relief to relieve local property taxpayers of welfare financing burden.

More on Rally

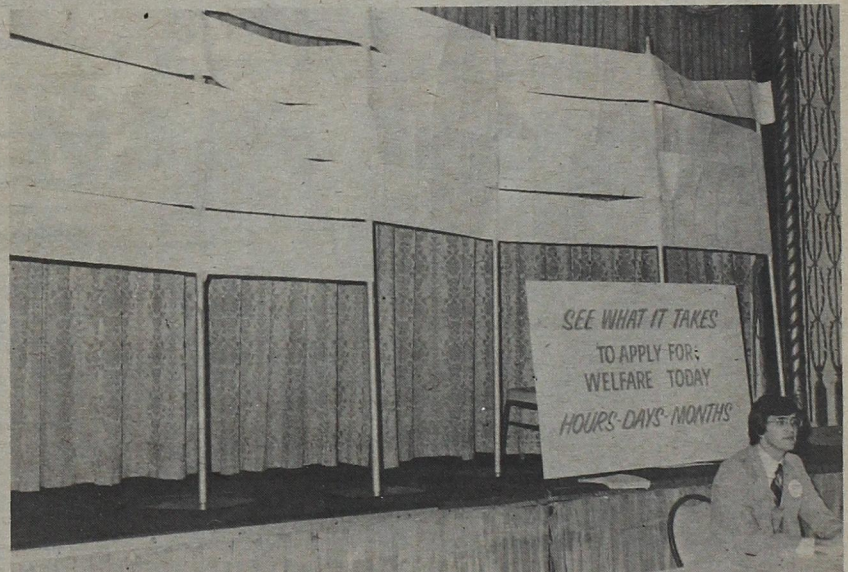
NACo 2nd Vice President Charlotte Williams of Genesee County, Mich., and Jarrette Simmons of Wayne County, Mich., lead a delegation of county officials to Capitol Hill where they met with their congressmen.



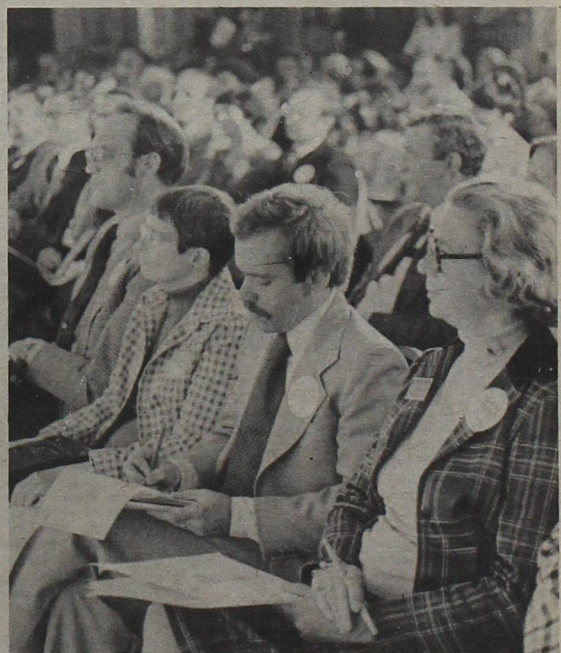
After visiting Capitol Hill, Vincent Fusilli, Hudson County, N.J., left, Mary Louise Symon, Dane County, Wis., and New Jersey State Association Executive Jack Lamping report back to NACo staffer Linda Church on the reactions of congressmen to welfare reform.



Rally participant studies the program before the speeches begin.



Featured at the rally were exhibits showing how confusing current welfare programs can be. Above, a chain of forms which an individual must complete to become eligible for welfare extends 70 feet long. Other exhibits included a three-foot stack of federal welfare regulations and a table where visitors could "try their hand" at filling out complicated AFDC and food stamps applications. NACo's thanks to those who contributed material for these exhibits, particularly Keith Comrie of Los Angeles County, Calif.; Gigi Curtis of Fairfax County, Va.; Linda Green of Prince George's County, Md.; and Bernard Phifer of the District of Columbia.



The rally drew a full house of county officials who donned buttons calling for "Welfare Reform Now!"



Frank Jungas, left, helps unpack New York City's welfare action postcards in front of the Mayflower Hotel with Lt. Gov. Mary Anne Krupsak, Mayor Abraham Beame and William Beach, NACo president.

What Did Your Congressman Say?



L.A. County Supervisor James A. Hayes talks with Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) about welfare reform.



Pennsylvania county officials are greeted by Sen. Richard S. Schweiker (D-Pa.). From left are: David Bausch, chairman, Lehigh County, Pa.; John Kachmar, executive director, Manpower Consortium and Bill Sharf, consultant, Lehigh County.

Many county officials arranged a meeting with their congressmen after the Welfare Action Rally, Sept. 21. The officials were asked to complete and return the following questionnaire. The responses will be helpful to NACo in our lobbying efforts for swift action on those issues important to counties. We ask that if you didn't have time to return this form on rally day, send it to us now. Also county officials who couldn't make it to the rally are urged to contact their congressmen and ask their views on these important issues. Let us hear from you.

Congressional Report Form Welfare Action Rally

Please complete this form immediately following your meeting with your senator/representative. Meeting held with:

Senator/Representative _____

Legislative Aide(s) _____

Questions to be Answered

1. Does the senator/representative support the concept of immediate and significant fiscal relief for local government as a necessary part of welfare reform legislation? yes ☐ no ☐
2. Will the senator/representative support the continuation of the role of the chief elected local official as the exclusive decision-making authority in jobs and training programs? yes ☐ probably ☐ uncertain ☐ probably not ☐ no ☐
3. Are there any desired additions or deletions to the bill? yes ☐ no ☐

Comments: _____

Please return this completed form to NACo Hill House, 115 C Street, S.E. or call your comments to NACo (202) 785-9577.

• **Public Assistance Amendments.** In a meeting with NACo leaders Sept. 21, Sen. Russell Long (D-La.) agreed to remove Senate Finance Committee amendments on Social Security financing and fiscal relief from H.R. 7200, leaving it a primarily child welfare services bill. Long said he knew the very complex bill was in trouble and that fiscal relief should be provided in another measure. NACo supported H.R. 7200 in House action.

• **Water Pollution Amendments.** House Public Works Committee holding hearings on major changes to 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Act (H.R. 3199). NACo testified in support of increased construction grant funding, extension of 1977 municipal deadline, extension of the deadline for reallocating construction funds and flexibility for local governments to use ad valorem taxes to finance the operation and maintenance of treatment plants. County officials should continue to press House and Senate members for quick action on passage of a water bill.

• **Community Development.** A House-Senate Conference Committee remains deadlocked over provisions in H.R. 6655, the Community Development Amendments of 1977, relating to the distribution of entitlement funds to urban counties and metropolitan cities. The House version provides for a dual formula system for fund distribution together with an annual \$400 million

Urban Development Action Grant program. The Senate version provides three formulas with the additional funding needed for the third formula taken from the \$400 million action grant program. Committee staffs are meeting informally in an attempt to work out a compromise. Should the issue not be resolved by Sept. 30 (when authorization for the current community development program expires) a continuing resolution will have to be passed by the Congress to keep the program going.

• **Minimum Wage.** House passed H.R. 3744 by 309-96 vote. The bill would increase the minimum wage from \$2.30 to \$2.65 an hour on Jan. 1, 1978, to \$2.85 on Jan. 1, 1979, and to \$3.05 on Jan. 1, 1980. It would exempt 3 million small business employees from minimum wage coverage, by exempting companies with annual sales of less than \$500,000. The present level is \$250,000. The House defeated proposals to tie minimum wage to average wage rates, and to increase wages for waitresses and waiters. Speaker Thomas O'Neill cast a tie-breaking vote against creating a sub-minimum wage for youth. The Senate has yet to act on the minimum wage.

• **Second Budget Resolution.** House and Senate Conference Report on the Second Budget Resolution for fiscal '78 which sets a \$458.3 billion spending ceiling and a \$397 billion floor on revenues. Two hundred and fifty million dollars in budget authority for welfare demonstration projects was debated by conferees.

However, the resolution allows for additional CETA appropriations in fiscal '78 as follows: \$3.8 billion for public service jobs under CETA Titles II and VI; \$500 million for youth (targeted to Title III-C and Title VIII of CETA); and \$210 million for a possible supplemental for increases in the minimum wage (targeted to Titles I and III).

• **Community Action Agencies.** Scheduled for full committee markup this week is H.R. 7577. The subcommittee adopted NACo's position that the federal/non-federal share for anti-poverty programs be returned to 80/20. However, the subcommittee designated that 5 per cent of the nonfederal share be cash, not in-kind as before. NACo opposes the cash-match requirement.

• **Taxable Bond Option.** Carter Administration has indicated support for a taxable bond option bill which would provide a federal in-

terest subsidy of 35 to 40 per cent for jurisdictions which issue taxable bonds.

• **Federal Development Bank.** Treasury Department officials have indicated the Carter Administration is developing a National Development Bank proposal to provide funding for economic development in all areas—not just central cities.

• **Indochinese Refugee Assistance Program.** Senate Human Resources Committee and House Judiciary subcommittee on international relations held hearings on the Administration's proposal to immediately phase down the federal program. A continuing resolution to permit operation under present rules for 6 months is expected, while national policy regarding future funding is being studied. Four California counties testified. NACo testimony submitted for record.

• **Aircraft Noise.** The House Public Works Committee has begun markup of H.R. 8729, a revised aircraft noise bill introduced by Rep. Glenn M. Anderson (D-Calif.), chairman of the aviation subcommittee, and 25 other members of the committee. This version eliminates provisions objectionable to NACo

and would provide \$400 million fiscal '79 and '80 for off-airport noise abatement projects, plus \$15 million for noise planning.

• **Social Security.** The House committee on Social Security, chaired by James A. Burke (Mass.), has voted to maintain coverage of federal, state, and local governments and employees of profit organizations and to prohibit any further notices of termination for state and local governments from the Social Security system. NACo opposed to such a provision, would like the option maintained. It is under the current law. House and Senate committees are working on the Social Security financing proposals.

• **Labor Relations Reform Package.** The Senate Human Resources Committee, chaired by Sen. Harrison Williams (D-N.J.), began hearings on S. 1883, the labor relations reform package. The subcommittee on labor management relations, chaired by Rep. Phil Thompson (D-N.J.), has completed hearings and is now marking up bill in full committee. The package does not include repeal of state right-to-work laws (Sec. 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act) will it provide for mandatory coverage of state and local employees. Congress plans to enact in this session.

Washington Briefs