

## This Week

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Vol. 9, No. 41

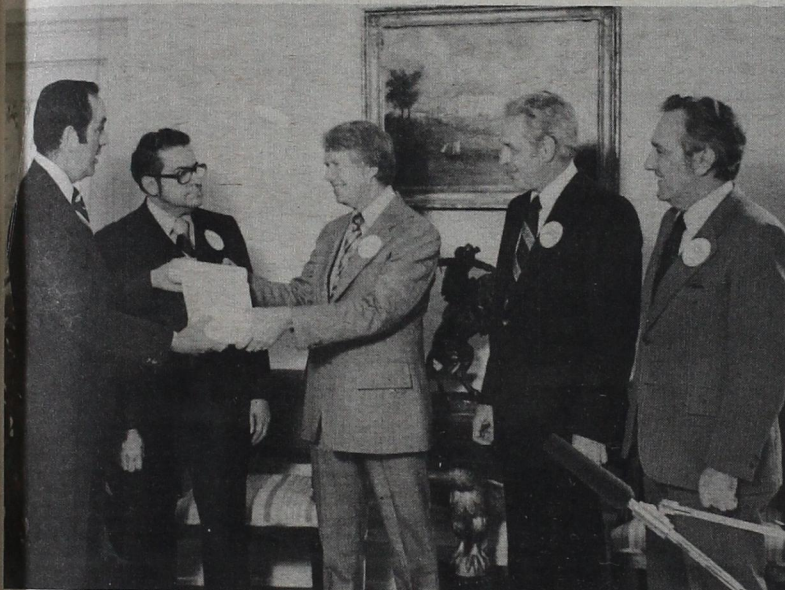
# COUNTY NEWS

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

Oct. 17, 1977



Washington, D.C.



400,000 SIGNATURES—President Carter is presented with a sample of the 400,000 postcards and petitions calling for swift action on welfare reform collected by county officials across the country. From left are Employment Steering Committee Chairman John V.N. Klein, Welfare Steering Committee Chairman Frank Jungas, NACo President William O. Beach and NACo Executive Director Bernard F. Hillenbrand.

## WELFARE REFORM

# Citizens' Message to Carter

WASHINGTON, D.C.—In a White House meeting last week, NACo spokesmen presented President Carter with a portion of the 400,000 postcards and petitions amassed by local officials urging Congress and the White House to act quickly on welfare reform.

The postcards, which now fill 60 large plastic bags, were signed by citizens around the country and brought to Washington by county and city officials attending a NACo welfare reform rally Sept. 21.

Meeting with the President in the Oval Office were NACo President William Beach of Montgomery County, Tenn.; NACo Welfare and Social Services Chairman Frank Jungas of Cottonwood County, Minn.; NACo Employment Chairman John V.N. Klein of Suffolk County, N.Y.; and NACo Executive Director Bernard F. Hillenbrand.

Beach told Carter that the 400,000 cards represented the views of millions of county citizens.

Carter in return stressed that in drawing up his welfare package he and his staff consulted officials in state, county and city government. He said that whether local, state and federal governments are working

together "can be the difference between success and failure" in such a program.

The postcards are part of a county campaign to replace current welfare programs with a nationally uniform system that is fairer to welfare recipients and less costly to local property taxpayers.

When Carter introduced his welfare reform legislation Aug. 6, NACo came out with support for his overall concept of income supports for people who can't work and assistance tied to jobs for people who can work.

Carter thanked the county spokesmen for this support but said he wasn't surprised by it because "you helped write the legislation."

NACo, however, has repeatedly stressed that local governments must have immediate fiscal relief from burgeoning welfare costs. In addition, counties are insisting that the jobs and training portion of Carter's welfare plan be in the control of local decision-makers, rather than the state governors. These demands were printed on the postcards.

For information on welfare reform field hearings, see page 2.

## Swift IRAP Action Needed

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Senate has added an amendment to the Indochina refugee act (IRAP) which extends full federal assistance to needy refugees for one more year.

The amendment to H.R. 7769, sponsored by Sens. Edward Kennedy, Alan Cranston and Hubert Humphrey, continues 100 per cent federal funding for fiscal '78 for cash

assistance, medical assistance, social services and state/local administrative costs for needy refugees.

Unless the President signs the bill before Oct. 21, however, aid to these refugees is likely to be cut off. Efforts are being made to get the amendment to the House floor for approval

and to the President before the expiration date.

Originally authorized in 1975, federal refugee assistance expired Sept. 30, but the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) made funds available for October payments.

DESPITE MONTHS of lobbying for continuation and several willing sponsors in both Houses, the Administration's proposal for refugee aid, S. 2108, was put off until after the August recess. The proposal called for an immediate phase down over the next three years, although the President had authorized the admission of 15,000 new Indochina refugees annually over the next several years.

Terming the Administration's bill deficient in coverage as well as impact on states, localities and refugees, the Senate Human Resources Committee acted swiftly to expand the coverage with concurrence of the House Judiciary subcommittee on immigration and citizenship. A bill to continue 100 per cent funding for six months and a six month continuing resolution were considered. Heavy lobbying by NACo and California counties, which have a high refugee population, was instrumental in getting the one-year full funding introduced and passed. House approval of the amendment is expected early this week.

The purpose of H.R. 7769, into which the IRAP extension was amended, is to adjust the status of Indochina refugees from alien parolees to permanent residents. Senate amendments extend this adjustment to additional refugees arriving under the President's new program and exempts those adjusted from the ceiling on annual alien admission for permanent residency.

See SENATE, page 6

## Dallas County Treasurer Chosen for State Office

DALLAS COUNTY, Tex.—Warren G. Harding has been making a name for himself as county treasurer for the past 27 years. Now he's garnered national attention with his appointment as state treasurer by Gov. Dolph Briscoe. Harding replaces the late Jesse James who died recently at age 73.

At his swearing-in ceremony Oct. 7, the 56-year-old treasurer promised to "streamline and improve operation of the treasurers

office and investments" and "to keep the people of this state informed of the programs, responsibilities and progress of the office." The treasurers' office handles over \$8 billion worth of money and investments.

Harding has a background rich in government and community service. He is past president of the National Association of County Treasurers and Finance Officers, a NACo affiliate, and past president of the county Treasurers Association of Texas. He is a former NACo board member.

In 1968, he received a commendation from President Lyndon B. Johnson "for Outstanding Public Service in County Government" and was awarded the Outstanding Treasurers Award of the National Association of County Treasurers and Finance Officers.

He served as president of the Texas Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration and vice president of the Texas Association of Counties. He is listed in the 1977 edition of "Who's Who in Government."



Harding



JOINS THE CAMPAIGN—President Carter sports a "Welfare Reform Now" button presented to him by NACo President Bill Beach.



# Points to Make at Welfare Reform Hearings

WASHINGTON, D.C.—In advance of the special hearings scheduled by the House welfare reform subcommittee, NACo has prepared the following guidelines for testimony.

## FORMAT

Most testimony is presented as a narrative statement with charts attached. Testimony should begin with a self-introduction—an explanation of speakers' involvement in the subject and a brief description of the programs operated in the area. All testimony should be preceded by a one-page summary of your major points. You may then choose to address one or more of the issues listed below, but do not hesitate to address other areas of significance in your jurisdiction. Be sure to leave time for questions and answers.

## Reactions to President's Proposal

In reacting to President Carter's

welfare reform program, you might highlight NACo's support for:

- Consolidation of assistance programs: food stamps, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
- Separation of those persons who are expected to work from those not expected to work (aged, blind, disabled, and single parents of children under 7);
- Emphasis on jobs and training to match people with available work in the private or public sector;
- Uniform federal floor for cash assistance;
- Elimination of coverage "gap" for those receiving assistance;
- The concept that work is always more profitable than welfare; and

## NACo's Concern About:

- Lack of immediate fiscal relief;
- Lack of a guaranteed job for all eligible persons expected to work,

similar to the guarantee for cash assistance;

- Inadequate funding of emergency relief;
- Increased decision making role for the governor in the jobs and training portion of the program at the expense of the existing role of the chief local elected officials;
- Accuracy of cost estimates and data base; and
- Lack of definition of impact on social service programs.

## OVERALL APPROACH

Be positive about the program operating in your area. Choose issues or program innovations that are important to your area and focus on those. Remember that members of the subcommittee have access to all the aggregate, national data they need. However, it doesn't hurt to reference your accomplishments against national data. Testimony like yours is one of the few opportunities to hear about welfare/employment programs in a local setting—so concentrate on what has happened in your area.

Among the issues you may want to discuss are:

- Relationship with the Employment Security (ES) for placement of participants and/or program intake. Does ES effectively serve the economically disadvantaged in your county?
- Innovative programs which are being run in your area (e.g. programs serving offenders or welfare recipients).
- Problems created through multiple conflicting eligibility requirements.
- Problems concerning departmental regulations.
- Experiences in Title VI build-up.

Above all, be positive about your program and the importance of local control. Discuss examples of how your program is meeting local needs and participants benefit from your services.

## PREVIOUS ISSUES

Questions from subcommittee members will to some extent be determined by your testimony, but you should be prepared to respond to questions on a variety of related issues. Although we cannot predict specific questions, we have outlined some issues which have arisen in previous hearings.

Field hearings on the Administration's Welfare Reform Bill, H.R. 9030, have been scheduled by the special welfare reform subcommittee of the House of Representatives as follows:

Huntington, W. Va.	Nov. 7-8
Salem, Ore.	Nov. 9
New York City, N.Y.	Nov. 9-10
Oakland, Calif.	Nov. 14-15
Minneapolis, Minn.	Nov. 16-17
West Memphis, Ark.	Nov. 17
Los Angeles, Calif.	Nov. 17-18
Miami, Fla.	Nov. 21-22

Requests to be heard should be submitted to John M. Martin Jr., Chief Counsel, Committee on Ways and Means, 1102 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, (202) 225-3625, by the close of business Friday, Oct. 28.

**Equal Pay for Equal Work vs. Minimum Wage.** The Administration's proposal is designed to ensure that work is always more profitable than welfare and that regular unsubsidized jobs are more profitable than public service employment (PSE). The linch pin of the incentive system is the requirement that welfare reform jobs pay only the minimum wage. In describing the work to be performed, however, the Administration has drawn heavily on the CETA Title VI project jobs, which pay an average of \$3.50 per hour.

Subcommittee members repeatedly asked Labor Secretary Ray Marshall to distinguish between the two types of PSE. Another concern was the creation of what Rep. Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif.) called "a permanent secondary labor force." To counter that fear, he asked Marshall to ensure that no person would be required to take a minimum wage job where the entry wage for the same work in the private sector is higher.

**Are 1.4 Million Jobs and/or Training Slots Enough?** Questions along this line came from two viewpoints. On one hand, the Democratic liberals consider the jobs portion of welfare reform an inadequate first step toward full employment. They would remove restrictions on who is entitled to a job and/or make the program open-ended so that sufficient jobs can be created to meet the demand. In addition, they point to the lack of

provisions designed to stimulate creation of jobs in the private sector as evidence that more PSE is needed. On the other hand, cost-conscious members suggested that the Administration had grossly underestimated program costs through especially if the 5.6 per cent employment rate assumed in the proposal was not achieved.

**How Will the Program Be Administered?** Both CETA prime sponsors and the ES came in for their criticism, but the overwhelming of the questions in this area related to ES's track record in placing service to the welfare population. The administration of work currently tied to food stamps, employment Insurance (UI) and AFDC Hearing that ES will supervise welfare reform job search requirement, Rep. William F. Goodling (Pa.) said, "That scares me to death. He got Assistant Secretary H. Green to admit that 8 million of ES's 15 million 1976 applicants there for 'paper transactions' registering for work in order to qualify for some other program."

Overall, subcommittee members seemed to support the concept of local decision-making in the program. However, two Democratic Reps., Charles Rangel (N.Y.) and William Clay (Mo.), called for federalization. Moreover, local union supporters frequently made a point of contradictory statements such as Rep. Perkins' call to "get Green Thumb to 375,000 slots" and Rep. Goodling's exasperated comment that, "I get more complaints about CETA than anything else."

**What Will Be Welfare Reform's Relationship to On-Going CETA Programs?** Secretary Marshall suggested that the basic CETA programs would be both a backdrop and a reserve for special welfare target groups, such as the elderly, the disabled, and the young. He suggested that Title VI would be a permanent countercyclical program.

A number of questions were attempted to get a commitment out of that explanation. One sought justification for variations among wage rates for different types of CETA, especially Title VI.

## Did you know there is a "who's who" of federal, state, county and city officials that lists names, titles, phone numbers and addresses?

It is the comprehensive and completely updated "Braddock's Federal-State-Local Government Directory." Starting with the White House, executive department, independent federal agencies, the Senate, House of Representatives and members of the U.S. Supreme Court, it concludes with the toll-free numbers of the federal Information Centers and lists of staff contacts at the National Association of Counties and the other associations representing state and local government.

A paperback edition that will just squeeze into a business size envelope even includes a section on the correct form of address for select government officials.

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**STUDY TOUR TO RUSSIA**—One hundred eighty county officials, spouses and NACo staff gathered at Dulles port, outside Washington, D.C., prior to their Oct. 11 departure for Leningrad, the first of three destinations of the U.S.S.R. The purpose of the NACo study tour is a comparison of local government concerns. There will be discussions with Soviet authorities on topics such as environmental policy, public health and social services, transportation, mass transportation, and citizen involvement in local government. Formal seminars, small group meetings and cultural activities are included.



# EDA to Rectify Mistake

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Economic Development Administration (EDA) has adopted procedures to protect counties from financial losses resulting from the agency's use of improper designating criteria under its Redevelopment Area program. EDA will be notifying all affected counties of continued designation or redesignation under the agency's Section 401 program, thereby recognizing the financial costs and administrative efforts borne by those counties.

Last October Congress enacted the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1976 (to be distinguished from the Local Public Works Act), reauthorizing EDA for three years. A provision in the law altered the qualifying criteria for the "Redevelopment Area Program," Section 401.

To be eligible prior to last October a county had to have "substantial unemployment," defined at a rate of 6 per cent or more, for the preceding calendar year. The three-year authorization changed the minimum criteria and established an unemployment level that exceeds the national unemployment rate. (The national unemployment rate over 24 months was 7.8 per cent as of May 1977.)

HOWEVER, EDA initially neglected to employ the new criteria and continued to notify counties of eligibility based on the former, no longer valid, minimum qualifications.

The agency improperly designated 108 counties, while another 141 proceeded with acceptable Overall Economic Development Plans (OEDPs), under the old criteria. Designation as a redevelopment area holds forth the possibility of EDA funding after OEDPs are developed and other requirements are met. Relying on EDA's notice of designation, these communities expended money and time to participate in the program.

EDA has taken actions to ensure that no county notified will be penalized. All counties that responded to the agency and committed themselves to participate as a redevelopment area can do so based on the following decisions:

First, of the 249 affected counties, 107 qualify under the new criteria and will, therefore, be soon redesignated.

Secondly, the remaining counties will be designated under a different subsection (401c6) of the act. This enables the Secretary to designate areas based on factors other than having a 24-month unemployment rate above the national average.

The agency will also use the same combination of qualifying criteria in regard to those counties who had been and are currently working on OEDPs under the old unemployment rates. It should be noted that all requirements must be met by these counties by Dec. 31.



**PRESIDENT SIGNS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BILL**—County officials were invited last week to join President Carter as he signed the Community Development Act of 1977. The act extends the Community Development Block Grant program for three years and various subsidized housing programs for one year. Pictured from left are: Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.); Frank Francois, councilman, Prince George's County, Md. and

NACO 3rd vice president; Rep. William Moorhead (D-Pa.); former NACO president and now Rep. Gladys Spellman (D-Md.); Sen. Paul Sarbanes (D-Md.); Supervisor Jim Scott, Fairfax County, Va., chairman of NACO's Community Development Steering Committee; John Heinz (R-Pa.); Sen. Harrison Williams (D-N.J.); Rep. Henry Reuss (D-Wis.); HUD Secretary Patricia Roberts Harris; and Sen. Thomas McIntyre (D-N.H.).

## Expanded Rural Development Urged

WASHINGTON, D.C.—At recent congressional hearings county officials urged enactment of provisions of the Rural Housing Act of 1977, S. 1150, to stimulate housing and provide increased water and waste disposal grants. Earl D. Thompson, chairman, Chatham County (N.C.) Board of Commissioners, and Robert McNichols, administrator, Pulaski County, Va., testified on Oct. 6 before the Senate Rural Housing subcommittee, chaired by Sen. Robert Morgan (D-N.C.).

Citing statistics that show two-thirds of the nation's housing is located in rural America, Thompson strongly endorsed the proposed low and moderate income homeownership program. "County officials are on the line when it comes to providing the decent, safe and sanitary housing pledged by Congress," Thompson stated, "but we cannot do it alone."

The commissioner told the subcommittee of several instances where Chatham County and local groups successfully cooperated using Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) money to improve substandard housing conditions for the rural poor and elderly.

MCNICHOLS supported increasing the yearly water and waste disposal grant authorization to \$1 billion by 1980. "These grants mean jobs, industries and housing for our people," McNichols stated.

He also urged the subcommittee to increase the grant level to 75 per cent rate for all grant awards and to direct FmHA to delete the controversial 1 per cent rule. The 1 per cent rule, an administrative regulation which links the grant award to the county's median income level, has resulted in counties receiving lower amounts of grants and higher loans. Moreover, it has also created non-expenditure of grant funds provided by Congress.

"The adoption of a simple 75 per cent grant rate for all projects will be a step towards equity with urban programs and a fair share for rural America," McNichols emphasized.

Both county representatives commended the employees of the Farmers Home Administration, saying, "They have been required to

administer expanded program responsibility while being severely understaffed."

CONGRESS this year provided \$4.5 million to the agency to hire 300 additional staff. It has been estimated that FmHA needs 2,000 new employees to continue administering programs that have been vastly increased over the past five years. It should be noted that while programs were being increased, the staff, in the past, was reduced.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has now placed a ceiling on the number of Department of Agriculture employees. This may, in turn, prohibit FmHA from hiring the much needed new personnel.

"This is contrary to the intent of

Congress and a breach of faith to the people of rural America," McNichols stated. He urged the members to call those officials from OMB to appear before the subcommittee and explain their decision.

No hearings have been set for the companion bills introduced in the House. Reps. Les AuCoin (D-Ore.) and Stanley Lundine (D-N.Y.) introduced H.R. 6235, covering the housing provisions, and H.R. 6236, covering the water and waste disposal program. Hearings on the bills, which have 22 co-sponsors, are expected early in 1978.

At the Senate hearings, Thompson acknowledged the innovative part of the proposed housing program, saying, a "recapture provision" would permit the homeowner and FmHA to share in the profit from the

home at the time of the sale. The division of profits would be determined by a formula based on adjusted family income, area cost of living, and other factors.

THE RECAPTURE provision would be an incentive to the homeowner to maintain and improve the property to increase its value. It also serves to return a portion of the housing subsidy to the government. Windfall profit would be avoided and the funds could then be reallocated to the needy families.

Under the program, FmHA would subsidize the difference between the family's payment (no more than 15 per cent of gross income) and the total housing cost. Total housing cost include principal, interest, taxes, utilities and maintenance.

## Briefings Scheduled for CD Act

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of Housing and Urban Development will be conducting eight, one-day regional legislative briefings on the Housing and Community Development Act of 1977 in major cities across the country during the next several weeks.

High level staff of the department will present an overview of the 1977 act, together with workshops on the Urban Development Action Grants; the impact of the act on small cities and counties; the overall changes in the basic Block Grant program, and housing.

The following is a schedule of briefings: Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Oct. 27; Commonwealth Pier, Boston, Nov. 1; Biltmore Hotel, New York City, Nov. 4; OMNI-World Congress Center, Atlanta, Nov. 8; Conrad Hilton Hotel, Chicago, Nov. 10; Glenwood Manor, Kansas City, Nov. 15; Dallas Hilton Hotel, Dallas, Nov. 18; Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles, Dec. 1.



McNichols, left, and Thompson before Senate rural housing subcommittee.

### COUNTY NEWS

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# Letters to NACo

Dear Bernie:

The county of Wayne feels many times blessed by the gathering of more than 4,000 NACo delegates here in late July.

We continue to receive letters from county leaders in many parts of the nation congratulating us for the success of the conference and thanking us for our hospitality.

Wayne County, which embraces the revitalized city of Detroit, is on the upsurge.

The NACo conference was a focal point in this resurgence. We are grateful to NACo and to all those who visited us in July for investing in our community.

We trust that those who came and had a good experience will spread the good word to others.

Wayne County and Detroit will welcome guests and is ready with one of the nation's finest convention centers.

—John Barr  
Chairman, Wayne County Board of Commissioners

Dear Mr. Hillenbrand:

The National Association of Counties' support of H.R. 5383, my legislation to end mandatory retirement for federal workers and raise the minimum age from 65 to 70 in the nonfederal sector, was deeply appreciated. I am grateful that the National Association of Counties worked so hard in backing this bill. The joint statement that you cosigned was an eloquent expression of the reasons Congress should enact it and of its meaning to the elderly themselves.

Your efforts were instrumental in the House's overwhelming vote of 359 to 4.

The *New York Times*, in a front page article on Saturday, Sept. 24, described the bill's House passage as "a striking display of the political force of the growing numbers of older Americans." I can only add that it also represents the political force of collective efforts by organizations that represent the nation's elderly and work on their behalf.

—Claude Pepper  
Chairman, Select Committee on Aging

Dear Mr. Hillenbrand:

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners and the Mental Health Department, I wanted to thank you for the technical assistance provided to us by the NACo Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse Program staff. The technical assistance was of high quality and demonstrated sensitivity to our local needs and concerns.

The Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse Program is an excellent example of how NACo can be of assistance to its member counties by matching the needs in one county with the expertise in another and bringing the two together. I believe that this kind of assistance should not only be continued in the area of alcoholism services, but be expanded to include other mental health problems and service delivery systems.

Special recognition needs to be given to the staff of the Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse Program. Michael Benjamin, Linda Hay, Jacque Rosenberg, and the other staff all demonstrated excellent knowledge of the field of alcoholism, perceptiveness in surveying the alcoholism program in Washington County, and expertise in exposing the program to approaches other counties are using in providing alcoholism services for their citizens.

—Ray Miller, Chairman  
Washington County Board of Commissioners

Dear Mr. Hillenbrand:

Greater programs for traffic safety are everyone's concern and we hope this message will be shared by grandparents and their children's children.

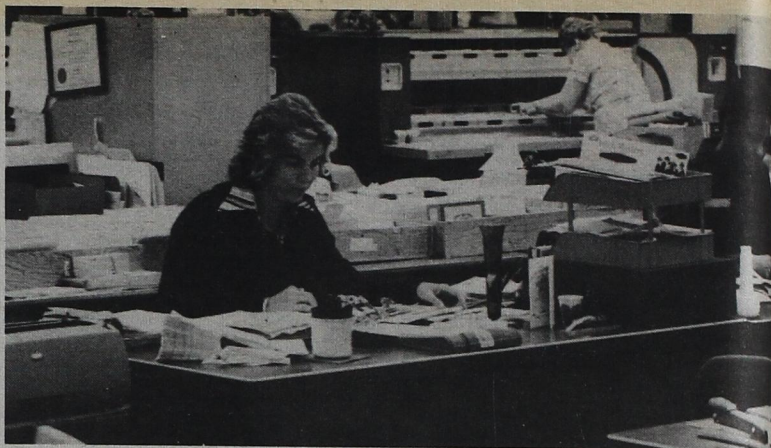
Thousands of police officers throughout the nation meet periodically with millions of youngsters in classrooms to review safety on streets and highways. Rules of safety are particularly important to parents and grandparents.

Traffic officers provide sound advice on avoiding injuries to pedestrians, bicyclists, passengers and drivers. When lured by the bells of street vendors a very young child often forgets the need for constant alertness and steps out from behind a parked car. Safety is no accident when traffic regulations are observed by all the users of the roadway, regardless of age.

Please tell your mayor and police department how much your family appreciates safety training in schools; children growing up in a "world of wheels" need constant reminders.

It must have been a grandparent who once said, "there are only two lasting things we can leave our children; one is roots, the other is wings." Grandparents can help a child who seeks wings to have strong roots, and thus a more secure family!

—Allan A. Bass  
Traffic Safety Bureau  
Middlesex County, N.J.



**MONROE COUNTY VOTER CAMPAIGN**—Spearheading a campaign to enroll as many eligible voters in Monroe County, N.Y., as possible, the Board of Elections has disseminated voter mail registration forms throughout the community via counter boxes placed in banks, post offices, libraries, government buildings and personnel offices. "Our voter registration theme entitled 'Voters Have Pull, Register to Vote' has really caught on and, to date, we have received over 14,000 mail registration forms," according to Election Commissioners James Chiavari and Michael Losinger. Board of Elections personnel are pictured reviewing and processing mail-in voter registration forms.

## HEALTH PLANNING PROCESS

# Profile of 4 SACs

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—With the idea of coordinating local community needs with centralized planning, the National Health Planning Law of 1974 (P.L. 93-641) allows for the establishment of subarea councils (SACs)—local branch units of a health systems agency (HSA)—within each health service area. Local government officials and NACo believe that SACs are vital to developing community participation in health planning.

There are many health systems agencies (HSAs) at present with no SACs. NACo, in its legislative recommendations, strongly favors amending the National Health Planning and Development Act of 1974 to encourage, not just allow, subarea councils in all areas.

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

The Golden Empire HSA, in northern California, achieves a high level of community involvement due to its unique process of subarea council operation. The HSA covers eight counties and has seven SACs (one is a bi-county SAC). There are between 25 and 30 members to a SAC except for Eldorado County, with over 100 members.

While each SAC independently arrives at its own operating procedures, within the general guidelines of the law, the appointment process is generally the same: interested parties select individuals for the SAC nominating committee, who in turn receive final approval from the county board of commissioners.

"In some cases," HSA Executive Director Brian Dobrow states, "even that bylaw is ignored and the county commissioners directly select and approve the SAC members."

The procedure of giving final authority of SAC appointments to county commissioners is unusual. "That's why I say we're one HSA that doesn't need more local government involvement," Dobrow claims.

"We also have considerable financial contributions coming to the SACs from county government. Eldorado County put in \$30,000 of its revenue sharing funds while the HSA gave that SAC \$12,000. That constituted the entire SAC budget. Other counties contribute at various levels, from \$100 to \$2,000," he explained.

In addition to county appointment authority over SACs and financial contributions to them, four SACs simultaneously act as health advisory committees—under state jurisdiction—and another SAC serves as a developmental disability board.

### NORTHERN INDIANA

Under a less unusual procedure, the Northern Indiana HSA is able to receive a great deal of local participation, as HSA Executive Director Tom Tegtmeyer explains. This area covers 24 counties and has three SACs. SAC members are appointed by an application process whereby interested groups send names to the SAC nominating committee, with final approvals from the HSA executive committee.

Although SAC appointments in this Indiana HSA are not directly in the hands of the county, efforts are made to achieve adequate representation from county government, minorities, consumers, etc. In fact, the original steering committee doubled the proposed size of the HSA board in order to achieve proper representation from the area. Every county in the Northern Indiana Health Service Area is represented on both the SACs and the HSA board.

Of the 40 members to each SAC, 20 are also full HSA board members and additionally, eight of each 20 are concurrently on the HSA executive committee.

Tegtmeyer reports strong local input and says the HSA goes well beyond the guidelines in using the SACs as public hearing bodies for all project reviews, including three meetings a year each for the Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs) and Health State Plans (HSPs). Local newspapers announce all meetings and interested parties. The HSA also does consulting and survey work by contract from the county governments.

### CENTRAL NEW YORK

The Central New York HSA reflects some of the old rivalries that existed prior to the establishment of the health system network. As a result, there is an uneven degree of involvement at the local level throughout this 11-county, eight SAC area.

Each SAC here has its own bylaws and between 30 and 50 members are appointed through an open application process, with approval of the SAC nominating committee. One rule encouraging local participation states that at least one representative from each county that serves on the HSA executive committee must be a SAC member. Director for education and information for the HSA, Stephen Waldron, says the process does result in a fair repre-

sentation of metropolitan-rural, consumer-provider-minority, despite the obstacles of historic rivalries and indifference. Waldron mentions that counties do contribute both cash (\$50,000 from Onondaga County) and facilities and equipment to the SACs.

### UTAH

Subarea councils of the Utah HSA enjoy two conditions that set them apart from the other examples discussed: they are only four months old, and they are part of a single state HSA (the agency covers the entire state). Although they are spatially new, both the community and HSA are very optimistic about the nature of operation of SACs.

Only four have been established so far in the 16-county state—with at least three more to come. The SAC boundaries are coterminous with the existing substate regional planning districts for the Association of Governments (the multi-county planning bodies). These Associations of Governments select all SAC members (except in one county, where the county commissioner selects) to be approved finally by the HSA board.

According to Richard Cross, HSA chief of community involvement and head of all SAC activity, sharing of boundaries and appointment authority creates "a very close, pragmatic working relationship between the HSA and SACs and the multi-county Association of Governments."

Once their selections are in (names are given then needed), Cross and other HSA officials review the overall formula for fair representation and return to the association their comments and decisions.

One of the few controversies existing between the associations and the Utah HSA is the desire of the Association of Governments to protect its authority over A-95 reviews which it feels is threatened. HSAs do project reviews of all health proposals and may be seen as encroaching upon that local government responsibility. Cross, however, does not see a problem and says his reviews can co-exist. "It's just a matter of each unit understanding its own authority and responsibility—there should be no real threat."

NACo, in its official policy statement, encourages the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to view A-95 project reviews with equal weight and significance as the HSA project reviews.

—Gilbert M. De  
NACoRF Health Program



# Chautauqua Waging 'Attic Attack'

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY, N.Y.—In an all-out effort to encourage citizens to insulate their homes before the onslaught of cold weather, the County Energy Office here has launched a "Great Attic Attack" on three fronts.

Home insulation clinics, a "do-it-yourself" home insulation television series, and an energy counseling service were designed as key components of an ambitious educational energy conservation program.

County Executive Joseph Gerace declared that "Chautauqua County, with its disproportionate number of older homes and senior citizens, could not wait for the national energy policy to evolve."

"Drastic measures have to be taken to encourage citizens to weatherize their homes in an effort to curtail the cost of rising fuel bills," he said.

In February, Gerace appointed Thomas C. Duro as energy information coordinator whose initial task was to administer the Federal Energy Administration (FEA) "Project Conserve" grant. Using the Home Energy Savers program as a base, Duro distributed 11,000 workbooks to help homeowners analyze the heat loss in their homes. He then proceeded to expand the program by creating three additional features: clinics, a television program, and a counseling service.

## CLINICS

With the help of Cornell University and the Cooperative Extension Service of Chautauqua County, Dr. Leland Gallup, associate professor at Cornell, joined the "Great Attic Attack." Duro and cooperative extension agent Jim Gould held a free home insulation clinic in the Jamestown High School on April 26. Over 700 people listened as Dr. Gallup explained how to insulate a home and discussed techniques, materials, tools, and methods that would save "do-it-yourselfers" time and money. He also covered caulking, weatherstripping, storm window construction, venting techniques, and ended by explaining how to select a qualified contractor.

An identical clinic was held in Dunkirk, N.Y., the following evening. The overwhelmingly positive response to both clinics was an indication that the county was filling an urgent need for information on home energy conservation.

Dr. Gallup developed a three-hour home insulation course, while Duro contracted with four Adult Education instructors in various high schools and vocational centers to conduct eight additional clinics.

## TELEVISION PROGRAM

In an effort to broaden Dr. Gallup's exposure, Duro sought to arouse citizen interest through the mass media. He contracted with a vocational school to video-tape a home insulation course, featuring Dr. Gallup, for viewing on educational TV via the Chautauqua TV network. The two-hour show has been completed and will be previewed by federal officials for possible distribution to state energy offices throughout the country.

There is also a possibility that the two-hour program may serve as a forerunner in insulation education for the public on a national scale.

## COUNSELING SERVICE

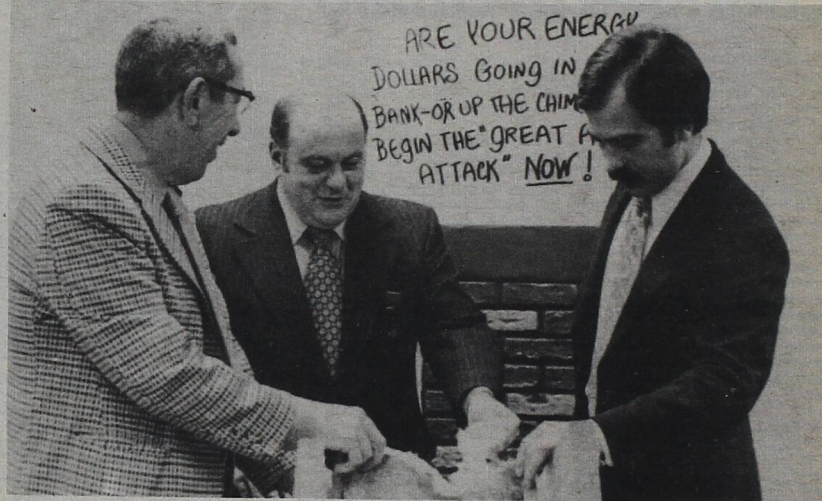
On another front, Duro joined forces with Richard Alexander, the Community Services Administration representative who directs Chautauqua Opportunities Inc.

Alexander coordinates winterization/weatherization programs in conjunction with Sven Hammar, director of the Office for the Aging. The objective is to insulate homes for senior citizens who qualify and/or those people who fall below a specified poverty level. The insulation work is done by consolidated work crews, thus furthering the practice of inter-office cooperation in energy conservation efforts.

Duro applied for five energy counselors under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) Title VI grant program. The counselors, who have at least two years' experience in the home building/construction trades, work under Don Sedlmayer, supervisor of the insulation work crews. By working with the crews, the counselors learn about the condition of older homes in the county, which helps them in making "energy audits" of individual homes.

Citizens may call the Energy Office and request an appointment with an energy coordinator for a free "audit." After analyzing the home, the counselor recommends areas that need improvements, such as insulation, weatherstripping, venting, caulking, and storm window construction. Materials and methods are reviewed as part of the on-site home energy saving education program. Counselors also work with the weatherization work crews when they have extra time.

For further information, contact Tom Duro, County Energy Office, Room B06, Hall Clothier Building, Mayville, N.Y. 14757, or call (716) 753-4258.



COORDINATING ENERGY EFFORT—From left, Donald Sedlmayer, energy weatherization coordinator, Chautauqua Opportunities Inc.; Thomas Duro, energy information coordinator of the Chautauqua County Energy Department; and Richard Alexander, executive director of Chautauqua Opportunities discuss instructional displays used in Chautauqua County's Energy Counseling program.

## COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT

# The Minnesota Experience

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Minnesota is among eight states that are part of an in-depth report on state subsidies for local corrections programs. The study was conducted by the Council of State Governments.

In 1972, the Minnesota legislature passed the Community Corrections Act which encourages local governments to divert criminal offenders from correctional institutions. It provides subsidies to one or more counties with a population of 30,000 or more and which elect to provide a full range of their own correctional services such as: prevention programs, diversion programs, probation and parole, corrections centers, special school programs, alcoholism treatment and drug abuse programs and community youth workers programs.

Participation in the Community Correction Act is voluntary. Basic to the act is the requirement that participating counties establish a corrections advisory board to develop a local comprehensive plan that identifies correctional needs, and defines the programs and services necessary to these needs. This board must be representative of law enforcement, prosecution and defense attorneys, the judiciary, education, corrections, racial minorities, social welfare services and citizens.

AFTER THE commissioner of corrections has approved the comprehensive plan, counties are eligible for state financial subsidy. Funding is through a block subsidy grant allocated to each county, based on an equalization formula designed to reflect a county's correctional needs and ability to pay.

The formula consists of four factors: per capita income; per capita taxable property value; percentage of population ages 6 through 30; and per capita expenditures for correctional purposes.

There is also a funding disincentive to reinforce locally based corrections.

A county must subtract from the subsidy amount the costs of commitment for those adult offenders sentenced to five years or less and

juveniles committed to state institutions. The "charge-back" is designed to encourage counties to retain less serious offenders in the community, while not penalizing localities for commitment of dangerous offenders.

To assure that the progress of the local corrections system will be monitored and appropriately modified and that necessary education and staff development will occur, counties must spend 5 per cent of the yearly subsidy on an adequate information system and on evaluation. An additional 5 per cent must be used to provide training for all relevant personnel.

MINNESOTA is influencing other states that have problems similar to those addressed by the Community Corrections Act: functional and governmental fragmentation, high costs of institutional treatment, lack

of an effective constituency for criminal-justice programs at the state level, disparate forms of treatment, and locations of treatment for rich and poor juvenile—all of which results in too many commitments to state institutions.

Ken Schoen, the commissioner of corrections for Minnesota, states that the results so far have shown that the counties under the act have reduced reliance on incarceration and that more good correctional alternatives have occurred at the local level. Segments of the criminal-justice system are coming together and planning, and for the first time correctional needs are being assessed in a comprehensive fashion, with comprehensive planning and effective evaluation, he concludes.

—NACoR Criminal Justice Program

## State Subsidies for Local Corrections Called Success

LEXINGTON, Ky.—A report soon to be published by the Council of State Governments says local governments are satisfied with state programs that subsidize local corrections programs including probation services, jails, and juvenile residential facilities.

A detailed examination of nine subsidy programs in seven states revealed "broad satisfaction" with such programs among both state and local officials, said Jack Foster, the council's director of research. Twenty-four states committed nearly \$300 million to local corrections programs in 1977, Foster noted.

States typically use subsidy money to encourage improvement of local correctional services and reductions in commitments to overcrowded state institutions, Foster said. (Subsidy programs in Arizona, California, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Washington were looked at in the council's report.)

Another factor contributing to the contentment with the state-to-local subsidy program, the research director said, is that state subsidies are much less costly to administer than federal programs. "Fund transfer from state to local governments is a very simple process," Foster said. "The state simply writes a check." This direct grant-in-aid with very few regulations to administer results in a program with almost no administration costs to either the state or county, he added.

State Subsidies to Local Corrections (RM 615, \$4.50) and a companion summary report (RM 614, \$3.50) provide information for states and local governments which are considering state subsidized local corrections programs. The final report contains a guide to developing legislation on subsidy programs.

## Job Opportunities

**Director of Computer Services, Broome County, N.Y.** \$20,882. Directs, plans, coordinates and supervises operations performed by data processing division. Requires bachelors degree, plus five years experience in operation and programming of electronic data processing equipment, two years of which in a supervisory capacity; or graduation from two-year college in computer science, plus seven years experience as above. Resumes to Broome County Personnel Office, County Office Building, Binghamton, N.Y. 13901.

**Manager, Division of Local Government Services, Northern Kentucky Area Development District, \$15,787 to \$18,761.** Under the general direction of the executive director, administers and performs technical and management assistance activities of the Northern Kentucky Area Development District, assists the executive director with preparation of agency budgets, personnel programs. Resumes by Nov. 19 to Northern Kentucky Area Development District, c/o Gene Archibald, Executive Director, 7505 Sussex Drive, Florence, Ky. 41042.

**Chief Park Ranger, Broome County, N.Y.** \$10,312. Requires high school diploma; two years degree in police science desirable; plus five years full-time paid experience as sworn police officer. Must have certification of New York State Municipal Police Training Academy, plus New York State driver's license and first-aid or

emergency medical training. Resumes to Broome County Personnel Office, County Office Building, Binghamton, N.Y. 13901. Call (607) 772-2185 for appointment.

**Commissioner, Social Services, Sullivan County, N.Y.** Salary open. An appointed five year position. Requires individual with demonstrated management ability—approximately 100 employees, oversees operation of county infirmary with 78 beds; thorough knowledge of federal and state programs related to welfare and social services. Resumes must contain the minimum established requirements by the State of New York for the position of commissioner of Social Services, Group II, date of availability and salary requirement. Respond to Paul A. Rouis Jr., County Administrator, Sullivan County Government Center, 100 North St., Monticello, N.Y. 12701.

**Chief Building Inspector, Wood County, Ohio.** \$21,840. Responsible for planning and implementing a program of inspecting new construction; establishes work procedures and practices for the building inspection program; reviews plans of all construction. Requires five years of progressively responsible experience as a building inspector; bachelors degree in architecture, engineering, or related field; expert knowledge of construction practices and procedures. Contact Ralph Brondberry, County Administrator, Courthouse Square, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402 by Oct. 31.



# Public Assistance Changes in Limbo

WASHINGTON, D.C.—As reported last week, the Senate Finance Committee reported out H.R. 7200, Public Assistance amendments of 1977, without the \$1 billion fiscal relief amendment introduced by Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan (D-N.Y.) and without several complicated Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) amendments opposed by supporters of the bill.

The bill now resembles the child welfare/social services package passed by the House in May.

To date, however, neither printed copies of the Senate version nor committee reports are available for comparison with the House bill, nor is it known when, or indeed whether, H.R. 7200 will come to the Senate floor for debate.

**SIMILARLY**, the fate of the fiscal relief provision and the controversial AFDC and SSI amendments is unclear. Although committee efforts to couple these amendments with the Social Security financing bill failed, an attempt to reattach them in Senate floor action is expected.

If the financing measures carry without H.R. 7200, it is likely that the child welfare bill will die. (Temporary continuation of the \$200 million Title XX funding to February 1978 was included in amendments to H.R. 3387, which passed the Senate Oct. 12. H.R. 7200 would make this a permanent increase in the Title XX ceiling, from \$2.5 billion to \$2.7 billion.)

Among the controversial AFDC changes are tightened quality control requirements, a revised formula for calculating the AFDC earned income disregard, amendments requiring recipients not enrolled in the federal work program—WIN to work off their grant (workfare), and the prorating of grants to AFDC recipients living with relatives.

The proposed quality control changes, rigorously opposed by Social Security Administration Commissioner James B. Cardwell before the committee, would require case by case sampling to identify the errors and trace the source back to the person responsible for the paperwork. There would be dollar incentives tied to percentage error rates for states to rigorously seek out errors. Cardwell held out for the Secretary to retain authority for design and frequency of quality control, but agreed that positive fiscal incentives to reduce error would be desirable.

**THE EARNED** income disregard and related work expenses would be revised to standardize the work expenses, eliminating costly and error prone individual, itemized deductions. Instead of the present \$30 plus one-third disregard of earnings, plus itemized work expense deductions, the committee agreed to require states to disregard the first \$60 earned monthly by an individual working full-time, plus one-third of the next \$300 earned, plus one-fifth of amounts earned above this. Child care expenses would be deducted before computing income and the amount would be set by the Secretary.

This provision would have the effect of setting an income limit for eligibility of employed AFDC families (approximately \$750 per month for a family of four in California) and of reducing errors due to verifying and computing itemized expenses. However, it is complex and the \$60 standard work expense may be too low for areas with high transportation costs. It also hits hardest those AFDC recipients earning the least, and reduces their incentive to work. The Administration plans to offer an amendment on the floor

which would simplify the formula and yet accomplish the objectives of setting a ceiling on earnings and simplifying the process.

**UNDER THE** "workfare" amendment agreed to by the committee, AFDC recipients who are excluded by law from registering for work would be required, as a condition of continuing eligibility for AFDC, to participate in public service employment if job search activity does not turn up a regular job. Aimed at mothers on welfare, the job search and public service activities would be arranged during school hours when feasible, and social and supportive services would be provided. States and counties could provide their share of the federal match for these services in goods and services instead of cash contribution.

Significantly, the requirement for a 60-day counseling period before assistance can be terminated would be eliminated, and the Secretaries of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) and Labor would determine how long persons could continue to be ineligible for aid in cases of refusal to participate in a WIN program.

The committee also passed an amendment to reinstate the Community Work and Training programs that existed prior to enactment of WIN in 1967.

## Senate Extends Aid to Refugees

Continued from page 1

After one year, the legislation provides for a phase down of the federal program, integrating assistance to refugees into other federal assistance programs. Using fiscal '78 costs as the base, federal reimbursement would be reduced by 25 per cent annually, until the program expires on Sept. 30, 1981; thus federal payment in fiscal '79 will be 75 per cent of 1978 costs, 50 per cent in fiscal '80, and 25 per cent in fiscal '81.

This reimbursement applies to non-federal costs of refugee

assistance both for refugees included under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and Medicaid programs, and to costs for needy refugees who are not covered by these programs.

In addition, \$25 million is authorized for special projects to assist refugees in gaining skills and education necessary to become self reliant over the life of the program. During fiscal '78 this is to be augmented by \$10.25 million, authorized under the Adult Education Act of 1975 for adult Indochina refugee education.

## Newsmakers

**JACK LAMPING**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
NEW JERSEY  
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

BORN APRIL 8, 1915, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

GRADUATE OF DOWNINGTOWN HIGH SCHOOL DOWNINGTOWN, PA., 1932, TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, B.S., 1936, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, M.A., 1937.

DIRECTOR OF THE LONG BEACH ISLAND-STAFFORD BOARD OF TRADE INFORMATION OFFICE, SHIP BOTTOM, N.J., 1939-1946. MANAGING EDITOR & CONTRIBUTING EDITOR TO NEW JERSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT, THE FREE HOLDER MAGAZINE, SINCE 1942. EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & SECRETARY, NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS SINCE 1958. PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY, SINCE 1942.



IN 1977, UNDER LAMPING'S LEADERSHIP, THE N.J. ASSOCIATION OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS WAS REORGANIZED TO INCREASE SERVICES TO COUNTIES. JACK BECAME EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES.

HE IS PAST PRESIDENT OF OCEAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY; PAST PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR, N.J. TRAVEL & RESORT ASSOCIATION; FORMER DIRECTOR NATIONAL TRAVEL ASSOCIATION.

A LAY MINISTER, UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LAMPING IS VICE CHAIRMAN MONMOUTH-OCEAN CHAPTER NATIONAL CONFERENCE CHRISTIANS & JEWS. DIRECTOR MONMOUTH-OCEAN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, PAST PRESIDENT STATE ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVES AFFILIATED WITH NACo, 1976 BICENTENNIAL CHAIRMAN OCEAN COUNTY, N.J.

HE MARRIED VIRGINIA PEDERSON, DECEMBER 25, 1940, IN DES MOINES, IOWA. THEY HAVE ONE CHILD, MRS. JERRY MILIANO AND TWO GRANDSONS.



**TESTIFYING ON SURFACE TRANSPORTATION**—Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, transportation subcommittee chairman, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, left, greets NACo staff and county witnesses prior to NACo testimony on surface transportation issues, Oct. 11. Pictured from left are: Dr. Marian Hanker, NACo associate director for transportation; Pat Nowak, deputy county executive, Oakland County, Mich.; and Milton L. Johnson, P.E., Clayton County (Iowa) engineer and president, National Association of County Engineers. Nowak and Johnson discussed such issues as transportation planning, urban, small urban and rural area grant programs, highway safety, deterioration of local roads, the nation's bridge crisis and ways to cut red tape.

## EPA Program Intends to Curb Noise

Noise pollution diminishes the quality of life for millions of Americans each year. Noise interrupts sleep, interferes with conversation, and can cause permanent hearing

damage. And unless steps are taken to reduce the accelerating increases in urban noise, levels of unwanted sound are expected to double by 1990.

Offices: Both EPA offices will provide technical assistance and guidance to ensure the program's success.

In response to this growing rate of noise pollution, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has initiated its Quiet Communities Program (QCP).

QCP is a pilot project intended to demonstrate that communities in the program can develop comprehensive approaches to reducing noise. The emphasis in QCP is on volunteer action at the local level, aided by guidance, support, and some financial assistance from EPA, in an all-out effort to control noise.

QCP projects will be cooperative efforts among governments, citizens, EPA's Office of Noise Abatement and Control, and the EPA Regional

The first QCP project is underway in Allentown, Pa. The government of Allentown actively sought participation in QCP, and the city was chosen for the prototype of all Quiet Communities because the noise problems in Allentown are manageable, and can be solved by a cooperative effort among the local government, EPA, and the public.

Within the next two years, nine other cities and counties will join QCP. Each of these demonstration projects will be supported by EPA for two years. If your county is interested in receiving further information on QCP, please contact Don Spangler, Noise Control Project, at NACo (202) 785-9577.



# Going Metric—Centimeter by Centimeter

What does to "go metric" mean exactly?

Simply, it means converting to a common standard of weights and measures—an international language of measurement—known as the International System of metric units (SI). The metric system is a decimal system of weights and measures. For example, length is measured in meters; mass or weight is measure in grams; volume is measured in liters.

The metric system was devised by the French and has been used in France since the early 19th century. By the end of the 19th century, most of Europe had gone metric.

In 1960, the General Conference on Weights and Measures, held in Paris, adopted a modernized standard version of the metric system. British Commonwealth countries began to abandon their imperial system of weights and measures and announced their intention of going metric.

In 1968, the United States, which had participated in the 1960 conference, passed a public law authorizing the Secretary of Commerce to study advantages and disadvantages of increased use of the metric system. (Use of metric measurement standards in the United States has been authorized by law since 1866.) The study report, issued in 1971, recognized the inevitability of conversion and recommended that conversion be well planned. For the next four years, attempts were made to adopt metric legislation. On Dec. 23, 1975, President Ford signed Public Law 94-168—the Metric Conversion Act of 1975.

## FEATURES OF THE ACT

According to the metric conversion act, "It is therefore declared that the policy of the United States shall be to coordinate and plan the increasing use of the metric system in the United States and to establish a United States Metric Board to coordinate the voluntary conversion to the metric system."

The board, not yet appointed, is to consist of 17 individuals representing many sectors of society: a chairperson and 16 persons appointed by the President (by and with advice and consent of the Senate), including "one to be selected from a list of qualified individuals recommended by the National Governors' Conference, the National Council of State Legislatures, and organizations representative of state and local government." County officials are being considered for appointment to the Metric Board.

The metric board is to devise and carry out a broad program of planning, coordination and public education. The metric conversion act provides guidelines for the board's activities. The board itself will decide how it functions and what effect it will have on metric conversion.

Thus, U.S. conversion to the SI system is voluntary, evolving primarily within the private sector, with the metric board monitoring and coordinating but not controlling the process. There is no specified timetable for national conversion. Each sector of the economy will convert at its own rate, and costs will lie where they fall. The act makes no

specific provision for government financial assistance during metric conversion.

County governments, because of the myriad of functions and services they perform, will inevitably be affected by metric conversion. But counties need not be reactors to a process imposed upon them. Counties can take an active role in initiating their own metric conversion activities, should they choose to do so.

## STATUS OF U.S. METRIC CONVERSION

According to the National Bureau of Standards, each state has begun some metric activity, ranging from proposed metric plans to the formal appointment of state metric coordinators and the establishment of state metric committees. (A listing of state metric committees is available from Marlene Glassman at NACo.)

Boeing, Caterpillar Tractor, Chrysler, Ford, General Motors, IBM, John Deere, Rockwell International and Xerox are all in varying stages of conversion. The Pinto, Mustang II and Chevette automobiles are partly metric. Seven-Up, Coca-Cola, Pepsi and Shasta soft drinks are on the market in metric-sized bottles of one and two liters. Schlitz beer is marketing 33-centiliter bottles. The steel industry is accepting orders in metric specifications. Levi Strauss and Co., clothing manufacturers, began dual sizing in 1970. California sells gasoline by the liter. North Dakota has put up metric signs in state parks; New York will require dual speedometers on vehicles registered after Sept. 1, 1980.

The European Community (EC), in its directive on measurement, set April 21, 1978 as the goal for making SI its common trading language.

## EFFECT OF CONVERSION ON COUNTIES

The effect of metric conversion on counties was the subject of a session at the annual conference in Wayne County, Mich. in July. Sponsored by the National Association of County Engineers (NACE) and the National Association of County Recorders and Clerks (NACRC), the session consisted of panel presentations followed by workshop discussion groups for elected officials, county transportation/public works officials and county recorders and clerks.

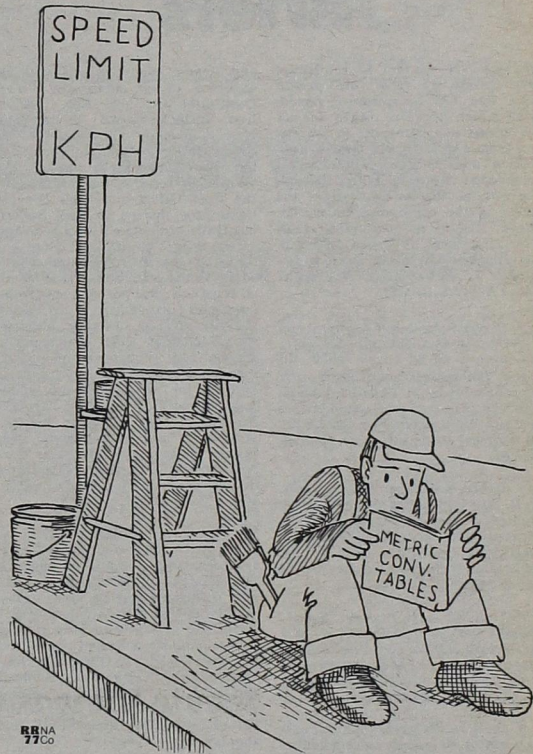
Daniel F. Casey, Milwaukee County (Wis.) supervisor, served as moderator and highlighted key provisions of the Metric Conversion Act of 1975.

A presentation on the effect of metric conversion on county transportation and public works officials was made on behalf of James L. Ray Jr., Shelby County (Ala.) engineer and public works director and chairman of the NACE Education Committee.

According to Ray, "Greatly accelerated conversion to metrics could have a serious impact on county highway departments or departments of public works. In our files there are over 500 field notebooks containing important data, often referred to, that are not in metric notation. There are numerous racks of maps, files of deeds and easements, rolls of profile and plan sheets, et cetera, not one of which bears metric measurements.

"Our machines, especially heavy equipment, with few of them using metrics, may take a generation to be replaced with new ones using the metric system. During the intervening period, duplicate sets of tools, stocks of parts, and supplies of nuts and bolts, etc. must be maintained."

"Our problems with metrics are not limited to sign and traffic situations, but may have more serious and lasting implications for the county engineer in other areas. The situation should be thoroughly



Future Dilemma?

studied, our position determined, and our feelings made known."

A county engineer from Ontario, Canada—which is in the process of formal metric conversion—pointed out that conversion costs are not as significant as originally expected.

During the metric conversion session, it was also pointed out that the new edition of the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*, which should be available early next year, will be published in English units only. There will be no reference to SI units, but the type will be set by computer with an automatic changeover to SI built into the program. If and when conversion does occur, it will be a "hard conversion," that is, all values will be in whole or even metric units, without decimals. All sign blanks will be metric.

Ralph A. Swenson, Blue Earth County (Minn.) recorder and NACRC director, presented the county recorders' and clerks' point of view on metric conversion.

According to Swenson: Since becoming involved in the planning process for a possible conversion to metric measurements of the land records of the United States, I have found a high percentage of people strongly opposed to it. Others agree with a county clerk who wrote to me saying that conversion of land descriptions to metric units is probably an idea whose time is coming.

"If and when metric is phased in, whether it be a fast or slow process or a soft or hard conversion, metric land descriptions can be handled in the land record offices. It will cost money. It will require training and probably more employees. This cost can be met either by federal or state subsidies to the local land records offices, or by increasing the recording fee so that the actual user of the services of the office pays for the increased costs. Too often the case is for the cost to be paid by the local unit of government which, in turn, raises taxes for the residents of the county. I trust that I, and all people

who work with land descriptions, are flexible enough to live with metric measurements if and as they move into our office procedures."

During the annual conference session, Edward Janis, staff project engineer, metric planning activity, at General Motors Corporation, discussed his activities at GM. Janis emphasized that metric conversion need not be a costly process if adequate planning exists and public support is acquired. He pointed out the extent to which GM has already gone metric: speedometers have been manufactured in dual mph/kph units. GM's 1976 Chevette is predominantly metric, including sheet metal, glass and fasteners used in the vehicle's production. Regarding metric training for GM employees, Janis discussed the GM Institute that utilizes a metric education module. This module provides training in metric conversion without excessive costs through use of slides and cassettes.

## THE FUTURE

As mentioned earlier, now is the time for counties to plan for metric conversion. The American National Metric Council (ANMC) is an excellent resource for counties to contact for information on metrics. ANMC is a private, nonprofit organization that serves as a planning, coordinating and information center for metric activities in the United States. Through ANMC, the private sector joins with government and the public sector in a voluntary cooperative effort to manage the national program for changing to the metric system. For information on ANMC and its publications, and education program, contact the American National Metric Council, 1625 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036; 202-232-4545.

—Marlene Glassman  
NACoRF Transportation Project

## Matter and Measure



The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recently announced a training course on Pedestrian and Bicycle Considerations in Urban Areas.

One presentation of the course will be conducted in each of 10 federal regions. The course is offered through the National Highway Institute (NHI) in cooperation with FHWA Offices of Highway Safety, Traffic Operations, Engineering, Planning and Development.

The course was developed by Northwestern University's Traffic Institute, under contract with FHWA's Office of Research and Development and is directed at employees of federal, state and local transportation agencies involved in planning, design or traffic engineering aspects of pedestrian and/or bicycle traffic.

The course is presented over 4 and one-half hours and includes lecture, discussion, visual aids, case studies and workshops. Class size will be limited to 30 participants.

There is no cost for tuition and training materials. However, participants or their agencies must cover travel and per diem costs. For scheduling or other information contact Gary N. Hamby, FHWA, National Highway Institute, HHI-3, Washington, D.C. 20590 or telephone (202) 426-9143. State and local agency applicants should send their request to the FHWA regional office through FHWA division office.

## MINIMIZING EROSION

The Federal Highway Administration, Region 15, will conduct Demonstration Project No. 31, "Hydraulic Design of Energy Dissipators for Culverts and Channels," Nov. 1-3, in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho. The workshop will be hosted by the U.S. Forest Service.

The demonstration will focus on the usefulness of energy dissipators in minimizing erosion problems at culvert outlets and along highway drainage channels. Erosion is often caused by high velocity flow into small structures. The energy dissipators can alleviate resulting impacts on the environment, especially streams.

For more information contact Ronald Wyes, U.S. Forest Service, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, (208) 667-2561.

## PHOTOMONTAGE DEMONSTRATIONS

The Federal Highway Administration will present two demonstration projects titled "Highway Photomontage—No. 40" in early November:

• Nov. 1, Missouri State Highway Department, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact Mark Weston Assistant Division Engineer, (314) 751-2876.

• Nov. 3, Iowa Department of Transportation, Ames, Iowa. Contact Wayne Wilson, Training Officer, (515) 296-1333.

The photomontage method was designed by FHWA to assist the public in understanding what is proposed in highway location and design decisions. The technique combines a computer perspective drawing with a photograph of the alignment. According to FHWA, an understandable picture of how the road will look after construction will result.

Demonstrations are conducted in two parts. Part one is a one-half hour slide show providing an overview of photomontage and its uses. Part two is a 2-3 hour workshop which covers the photomontage process in detail. Computer programs and users manuals on this demonstration are provided during the second half of the demonstration.



# Washington Briefs

**BULLETIN**—On Oct. 13, the House and Senate, by voice vote, passed H.J. Res. 626, a continuing resolution which provides funds for all programs and personnel in the Departments of Labor and Health, Education and Welfare (HEW). This resolution allows spending through Oct. 31, at the lower of either the level in the conference report (H. Rept. 95-538) accompanying H.R. 7555, the fiscal '78 Labor-HEW Appropriations bill, or the level in the fiscal '77 Labor-HEW Appropriations Act (P.L. 94-439).

- **Water Pollution.** Conferees considering amendments to the water act agreed on \$4 to \$5 billion for fiscal '78 for construction grants and \$5 billion for fiscal '79 to '81. Several other non-controversial amendments were agreed to. Conferees will continue to meet to decide other pending issues.

- **Public Assistance Amendments.** H.R. 7200 still stalled as bill language and committee report not available from Senate Finance Committee. H.R. 3387, to which some H.R. 7200 provisions were attached, was cleared to go to floor Oct. 12.

- **Indochina Refugees.** Senate passed four-year extension of program with 100 per cent federal funding for fiscal '78. House approval of amendment to refugee states expected this week. See page 6.

- **Welfare Reform.** Special subcommittee on welfare reform continues hearings on H.R. 9030, Better Jobs and Income Act, and schedules field hearings. See page 2.

- **Economic Development.** EDA has taken steps to accommodate counties incorrectly designated as "redevelopment areas" under the agency's former criteria of 6 per cent unemployment for the past 12 months, rather than the newly required 24 month unemployment rate over the past 24 months. Counties participating in the program will be redesignated under the new criteria or designated under a different subsection of the program eligibility requirements. County officials will be contacted shortly regarding necessary procedures. See page 3.

- **Rural Development.** County officials testified before the Senate rural housing subcommittee in favor of S. 1150, the Rural Housing Act of 1977. Bill contains new program for rural low and moderate income homeownership and proposes increases and changes in the water and waste disposal grant program. See page 3.

- **Local Public Works.** A federal district court judge in Los Angeles has issued a court order temporarily restraining the issuance of any new contracts for local public works construction by either the county or city of Los Angeles. The order was in response to a suit by contractors challenging the constitutionality of the provision in the second round of the Local Public Works Act requiring that 10 per cent of the contracts on each public works project be performed by minority business enterprises. The restraining order will be in effect until Oct. 31, at which time the court will formally hear the case. The delay affects another provision in the act requiring work on each project to begin within 90 days of notice of grant award.

- **Food Stamps.** Proposed regulations due Nov. 15.

- **Social Security Financing.** The Social Security legislation, H.R. 9346, which passed the House Ways

and Means Committee last week, is expected to go before the Rules Committee Oct. 18. Rep. Gladys Noon Spellman (D-Md.), chairwoman of the House subcommittee on compensation and employee benefits, has been successful at getting "sequential referral" which will allow the Post Office and Civil Service Committee chaired by Rep. Robert Nix (D-Pa.) to hold a day of hearings on the impact of universal coverage. NACo expect the full committee to adopt an amendment deleting federal, state and local governments from mandated participation in the Social Security system. County officials should contact their congressmen urging them to oppose this newly mandated federal expense and urge support for an amendment which may be offered by Rep. Joseph Fischer (D-Va.) deleting federal, state and local governments. The Senate Finance Committee is currently marking up their bill with no definite dates on when the bill will be reported out of committee.

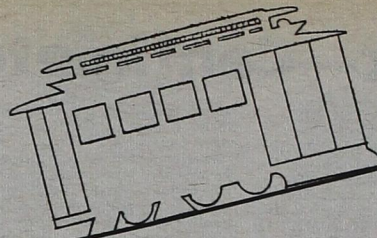
- **Employee Selection Guidelines.** The Equal Employment Opportunity Coordinating Council is nearing agreement on uniform federal selection guidelines setting forth hiring standards that govern federal grant recipients. The new revision should be available for comment within the next two weeks. The Office of Revenue Sharing will withhold its publication until the new guidelines are approved. Counties should continue the use of interim regulation until further notice.

- **Labor Reform Package.** The House passed H.R. 8410 Oct. 6 by a vote of 257-163. The Senate Human Resources subcommittee on labor has scheduled additional hearings on S. 1883 for Oct. 31, Nov. 3-4. It is unlikely that the Senate will finish this session. Both House and Senate bills attempt to provide administrative remedies for the National Labor Relations Board and make it easier for unions to organize.

- **Minimum Wage.** The House passed H.R. 3744 Sept. 15 by a vote of 309-96. The Senate passed S. 1871 Oct. 7 by a vote of 63-24. Because of differences in the House and Senate versions on the wage step increases, conferees have been appointed and were scheduled to meet Oct. 13 to work out differences. Both House and Senate rejected the proposal for indexing the minimum wage to a percentage of average hourly earnings.

- **Age Discrimination in Employment.** The House passed H.R. 5383 Oct. 7 by a vote of 359-4. The bill includes a provision which would raise the age ceiling for retirement in state and local governments from age 65 to 70 and would remove the ceiling for federal employees. The Senate Human Resources Committee was scheduled to report out S. 1784 Oct. 13.

- **Highways and Transit.** NACo testified Oct. 11 before Senate subcommittee on transportation on extension of federal-aid highway act and trust fund and U.S. Department of Transportation "Options Paper." House surface transportation subcommittee continues its hearings. Rep. Jim Howard (D-N.J.) has introduced a comprehensive surface transportation proposal, H.R. 8648. It includes a \$2 billion bridge program, increases for interstate, primary and secondary roads, and increases for all sections of the urban transit program. It adds a new transit program for rural areas at \$150 million annually. NACo has completed a section-by-section analysis of the bill. Contact Susan Thornhill at NACo for a copy.



CETA staff and elected officials should plan on attending:

## THE SIXTH NATIONAL MANPOWER CONFERENCE

Sponsored by the National Association of County Manpower Officials (NACMO)

**FAIRMONT HOTEL  
SAN FRANCISCO**

December 11-14, 1977

**Workshops (for elected officials, program directors, and CETA staff):**

PSE Management  
Human Resources Consolidation  
Youth Programs  
Rural Manpower Programs  
Contract Management  
Economic Development  
Public and Private Sector  
Coordination and Linkages  
Public Relations  
Oversight  
OJT Designs  
Union Relationships, and more.

**Business Session:**

Election of officers of the National Association of County Manpower Officials.

**Regional Caucuses**

**General sessions with key congressional representatives, staff and Administration officials speaking on:**

CETA Re-Enactment  
Welfare Reform  
DOL Policy

### Conference Registration/Hotel Reservation Form 1977 NACo Manpower Conference

- Delegates to NACo's 6th Annual Manpower Conference can both pre-register for the conference and reserve hotel space by filling out this form.
- Please use one form for each delegate who registers for the conference.
- Conference registration fees must accompany this form and may be personal checks, county voucher or equivalent...make check payable to **National Association of Counties.**
- Housing in conference hotels will be available only to those delegates who pre-register.
- Return to: NACo Conference Registration Center  
P.O. Box 17413, Dulles International Airport  
Washington, D.C. 20041

#### Deadlines:

All requests for hotel reservations must be received at the NACo Conference Registration Center by Nov. 16.

All Advance Conference Registrations must be postmarked no later than Dec. 2. After Dec. 2 you must register on-site at the hotel and there will be an additional \$10 charge per registrant.

Refunds of the registration fee will be made if cancellation is necessary, provided that written notice is postmarked no later than Nov. 25, 1977.

Conference Registration Fees: \$65 (Advance) \$75 (On-Site)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Make payable to NACo.

Enclose check, county voucher or equivalent.

No requests for registration or housing will be accepted by telephone.

**Hotel Reservation Request: Please Complete in Full  
Fairmont Hotel**

☐ Single (\$33)

Occupant Name \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.)

☐ Double/Twin (\$50)(2 people)

Occupants' Names \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.)

Suites available upon request. No room deposit required. Rooms may be guaranteed after 6 p.m. arrival in writing by your county or by sending one night's deposit to the above address.