

# County News

Official Publication of the National Association of Counties

Vol. 25, No. 22 • November 22, 1993  
Washington, D.C.

## PILT held hostage in legislative struggle

By Rick Keister  
associate legislative director

In a stunning last-minute development, Nov. 19, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee abandoned the markup of all bills, including S. 455, the Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILT) measure, when ranking member Senator Malcom Wallop (R-Wyo.) failed to appear at the scheduled session.

He avoided the markup to prevent consideration of a bill he opposed. That bill, S. 208, sponsored by Senator Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.), would reform the concessions policies of the National Park Service. Consequently, the PILT bill became a hostage in this legislative struggle within the committee.

PILT supporters had expected the committee to report out the measure on Friday. S. 455 would increase funding for the Payments-

in-Lieu-of-Taxes Program for the first time since PILT was enacted in 1976.

Senator Hatfield (R-Ore.), the prime sponsor of S. 455, pressed the committee to reconsider and markup the bill which he indicated was not controversial. Senator Bennett Johnston (D-La.), chairman of the committee, told Hatfield that he strongly supports PILT, but that Senator Bumpers, as chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands, did not want the bill considered until the park concession bill was voted on in full committee.

Since Congress is set to adjourn in a few days, passage of the PILT bill in the Senate will have to wait until they return next January. The issue of park concession reform will need to be resolved before PILT is considered. Chairman Johnston indicated that the committee will successfully report out the PILT bill when that occurs.

## New communities put on "endangered" list

By Jill Conley  
staff writer

In conjunction with its Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILT) rally, NACo released the names of six new communities added to its list of "America's Endangered Communities" at a news conference in the Capitol, Nov. 3.

The list names 10 communities in which the federal government owns vast amounts of land and whose economic livelihoods are threatened with extinction by restrictive federal public lands policies and an underfunded PILT Program. The communities selected are representative of many others.

Happy Camp and Portola, Calif.; Elk City, Idaho; Troy, Mont.; Ukiah, Ore.; and Encampment, Wyo. now join Walden, Colo.; Reserve, N.M.; Mill City, Ore.; and Escalante, Utah on the list. Two communities formerly on the list — Cima, Calif. and Jarbridge, Nev. — have been removed because they have essen-

tially become extinct. Four others — Horseshoe Bend, Idaho; Columbia Falls, Mont.; Williston, N.D.; and Weed, Calif. — have been upgraded to "threatened" due to improved economic conditions over the past several years.

"These communities are suffering," Boise County (Idaho) Clerk Arlene C. Kolar, a NACo Public Lands Steering Committee member, told reporters. "Jobs have been eliminated and businesses have shut down due to federal policy and court decisions. Limitations on logging, mining, recreation and cattle grazing have caused these communities' economies to falter, and have placed a severe strain on local government's ability to provide needed services."

She went on to say that counties are looking for relief through an increase in the PILT Program. The federal government, which owns one-third of the nation's land, does not pay property taxes to local gov-

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Photo by Jay A. Sevidal

Western Interstate Region President Bill Coates, supervisor, Plumas County, Calif., takes his turn at the microphones during a Capitol Hill news conference on PILT and endangered communities, Nov. 3. (l-r) NACo First Vice President Randy Franke, commissioner, Marion County, Ore.; Coates; NACo Public Lands Steering Committee Chair Louise Liston, commissioner, Garfield County, Utah; and Public Lands Steering Committee Member Arlene Kolar, clerk of courts, Boise County, Idaho.

## PILT supporters blitz Capitol

By Jill Conley  
staff writer

More than 50 county officials from 12 states were in Washington, D.C. Nov. 2-3 to participate in a two-day blitz of the House and Senate to garner support for legislation that

would recapture the original value of the Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILT) Program.

The rally began Tuesday with a kick-off briefing where Representative Pat Williams (D-Mont.), author of a House bill to increase PILT funding, discussed the finer details of his legislation with county officials. That afternoon, the group split up into teams and traveled the halls of Congress soliciting support for the legislation.

On Wednesday, participants held a breakfast meeting with Senator Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.), sponsor of similar legislation on the Senate side, and Senator Conrad Burns (R-Mont.). Shortly afterward, they attended a news conference in the Capitol where NACo released its updated "Endangered Communities" list.

The rally culminated with a packed hearing on the PILT Act of 1993 before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources' Subcommittee on Public Lands, National Parks and Forests, where NACo First Vice President Randy Franke, commissioner, Marion County, Ore., urged Congress to move swiftly on the issue.

Enacted in 1976, PILT has not had an increase in authorization in its 17

years of existence. During that period, the consumer price index has risen more than 120 percent, meaning that in 1977 dollars, program funding today is worth less than half of what it was when program was enacted. "Payments have remained

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Photo by Jay A. Sevidal

NACo First Vice President Randy Franke testifies on behalf of increased PILT payments before the Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands, National Parks and Forests.

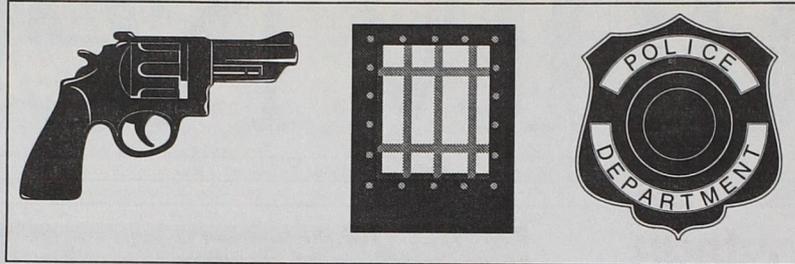
# Senate completes work on anti-crime bill

By Donald Murray  
associate legislative director

The United States Senate completed work on its anti-crime package Nov. 18, and as *County News* went to press, it was preparing to consider the Brady bill which had been approved separately by the House of Representatives on Nov. 10. The crime bill now goes to conference.

The \$22 billion crime measure places strong emphasis on community policing, boot camps and regional drug treatment prisons. It also authorizes a new \$1.2 billion "Drug Court" Program — requiring drug testing, drug treatment and alternative punishments for young drug offenders. Attorney General Janet Reno played a major role in setting up the first Drug Court in Dade County, Fla. during her tenure in the prosecutor's office.

After intensive back-room negotiations on Nov. 4, the Senate incor-



**The \$22 billion crime measure places strong emphasis on community policing, boot camps and regional drug treatment prisons.**

porated provisions for a controversial anti-crime trust fund to fund the package. It was designed to deal directly with a major problem associated with past crime legislation — the failure of Congress to appropriate sufficient funds in order to implement the authorizing legislation. Money for the trust fund would come from the Administration's plans to

cut 252,000 employees from the federal payroll.

One major question, however, is whether the House will go along with the Senate's funding mechanism. A second question is whether the contemplated savings will materialize.

Earlier, the House approved, as separate measures, four segments

of its crime package, including \$3.45 billion in federal grants to hire and train 50,000 more police and sheriff deputies (H.R. 3355), \$300 million in drug treatment grants for state and local inmates (H.R. 3354), and \$200 million to prevent gang violence (H.R. 3353). Another bill (H.R. 3351) to authorize boot camps and other alterna-

tive punishments for youthful offenders awaits floor action.

In the House, opponents of the Brady bill tried unsuccessfully to cripple the legislation by offering weakening amendments. The most ominous was an amendment that would have pre-empted state, county and municipal restrictions on handgun purchases once a national telephone check system was implemented. The amendment was defeated 257-175. NACo, the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors strongly opposed the amendment.

The Brady bill requires a five-day waiting period to conduct background checks. The bill would also authorize \$100 million to create a computerized instant background check system, which, when implemented, would replace the waiting period. One amendment, however, that was approved ends the requirement for a waiting period after five years even if a computerized system is not operating.

## America's Counties

# Counties in Clinton's home state seek new revenue options

(In "America's Counties," formerly known as "Todd's Travels," NACo President Barbara Sheen Todd writes about state and regional associations of counties. This is the fifth in her series.)

County government in the home state of President Bill Clinton received its power from the state's constitution in 1974 through Amendment 55 and Act 742 of 1977. This County Government Code defines the legislative powers of elected county officials and details the organizational and procedural details to be followed in the delivery of county responsibilities.

The Quorum Court, the county legislative governing body, has from nine to 15 members called justices of the peace, each of whom are elected from single-member districts. The chair of the legislative body is the county judge. Elected county-wide, the judge also serves as the administrator for most of the county programs which cover a broad range of traditional county services.

### Association of Arkansas Counties

The 75 counties of Arkansas are well represented through their active association of counties which was founded 25 years ago.

As the voice of the counties, the state association has a comprehen-

sive approach to legislative initiatives which involves a legislative committee whose members include judges, sheriffs, county clerks, circuit clerks, treasurers, assessors, collectors, coroners and justices of the peace. Appointment to this committee carries with it the responsibility to provide policy leadership and strategy for legislation of interest to counties.

### Toughest legislative battles

According to one county official in Arkansas, the costs of the criminal justice system to counties is "simply eating our lunch." The other major legislative challenge is that of unfunded mandates from the state.

Revenue for the state court system, for public defenders and jails is in short supply. In fact, this past year, six counties had to borrow money to operate until tax revenues were received.

Perhaps the greatest challenges facing Arkansas county officials is the need to create new revenue sources for the operation of county government. The two-cents local option tax and a capped five-mills property tax comprise the major existing revenue. Three mills are dedicated for roads and must be divided 50-50 with the cities in the incorporated areas.

### Innovative county initiatives

In spite of the financial constraints they face, the county officials of Arkansas have found some creative and efficient ways to deal with local responsibilities and they are rightly proud of the progress they have made.

The rural nature of Arkansas presents some interesting opportunities for innovation. A Rural Development Authority was created to provide a means for 11 rural counties to assess their common concerns and develop cooperative solutions for solving problems. This concept of rural cooperation was also demonstrated through the creation of rural water associations which provide a means for district- or county-wide distribution.

Because counties and cities may have similar responsibilities within a community, several counties have formed an intergovernmental council, comprised of mayors and county officials. Typically, the county judge presides.

The primary purpose of the council is to provide intergovernmental cooperation and coordination, and to avoid duplication of services provided to county residents.

Rather than going to outside sources for construction services, some of the counties have initiated an in-house bridge construction program, in which county contractors do their own precast work and use county employees for actual construction activities. This policy has saved local governments thousands of dollars.

Criminals serving time in Arkansas county jails work. It isn't at all unusual to find county "trustees"



Photo by John Martin

At its annual meeting, the Association of Arkansas Counties (AAC) gave a warm welcome to NACo President Barbara Sheen Todd. Pictured here: (l-r) Sebastian County Judge H. R. "Bud" Harper, AAC Executive Director James H. Baker, Todd, Craighead County Judge Roy Bearden, and Washington County Judge Charles Johnson.

participating in highway cleanups, cleaning ditches, farming, cooking for the jail, or participating in the prison industries' programs such as printing or furniture making.

### Future challenges

Arkansas' county leaders believe their state's economical initiatives need to be focused on attracting industry, building on their agricultural base and expanding tourism.

Counties currently are restricted in their ability to finance capital projects because they are prohibited from paying interest on anything other than general obligation bonds, which are subject to referendum. That issue, in conjunction

with the identified need to obtain county franchising ability of utilities, are major concerns which Arkansas counties will address.

### County News invites Letters to the Editor

If you have a compliment, complaint or different point of view, let us know. Please include a phone number with your letter. Mail or fax to: County News, NACo, 440 First St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001-2080, 202/393-2630.



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## Publisher's Perspective

### The case for PILT

By Larry Naake  
County News publisher



After an intense campaign over the last few years, we are beginning to make significant progress in our quest to increase funding for the Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes Program (PILT).

PILT was authorized 17 years ago to compensate counties for the presence of federal tax-exempt property within their boundaries. In 1992, \$100 million was allocated to more than 1,700 counties in 49 states. The program's authorization has not been increased since 1976, even though the consumer price index has increased 120 percent and the cost of providing county services related to the presence of public lands has increased even more dramatically.

With the leadership of Senator Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.) and Representative Pat Williams (D-Mont.), and the aggressive lobbying of Western counties and NACo, we are beginning to see action in the Congress.

We have 36 co-authors for S. 455, sponsored by Hatfield, and 77 co-authors for Williams' H.R. 1181. Although the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held hearings on S. 455 Nov. 3.

The case for federal payments to counties with large holdings of public lands is clear and conclusive.

First, the federal government should be a good citizen and an honest taxpayer within public lands counties. Tax immunity for public lands places an unfair burden on the local governments and local taxpayers who are required to provide the basic infrastructure and services which enable federal agencies to protect and manage the national parks, national forests, wildlife refuges and other recreational lands within their boundaries.

It is only fair and appropriate that the agencies pay for these services just like any other taxpayer within a county.

Second, PILT will help save many rural communities in America that are facing decline and, in some cases, extinction.

The economic downturn in many rural public lands communities and counties have been directly impacted by the presence of large holdings of federal lands and by changing policies in federal land management.

With increased emphasis on environmental values, traditional lifestyles are changing and jobs are being lost in rural communities. These counties need a stronger tax base to attract business and to revive the stability of their communities.

And finally, the cost of providing services has increased significantly, while the PILT payments have remained constant.

Counties provide direct and indirect services to national forests, parks, wilderness areas, fish and wildlife refuges, and reclamation areas.

PILT funds are spent by counties to support these services on public lands in such areas as emergency search and rescue, law enforcement, fire and emergency medical service, solid waste management, road maintenance, and health and human services.

The federal government needs to increase its payments for these services as the costs of these services rise.

The case for increased authorization for PILT is clear and justified. We believe that the Congress and the Administration will come to this same conclusion and pass appropriate legislation in 1994.

## Counties need to control trash flow

By Diane S. Shea  
associate legislative director

Court challenges to local governments' ability to direct where garbage and trash can be delivered have undermined their legal responsibilities and made it impossible to control their destinies, NACo testified on Nov. 5.

At a hearing before the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Transportation and Hazardous Waste, NACo Solid and Hazardous Waste Subcommittee Chair James D. Cole, Genesee County (Mich.) commissioner, said, "Flow control is essential to county governments, whether we collect the trash, provide recycling programs, dispose of waste, or merely provide oversight and management of private solid waste services."

He said, "Without the option to use flow control, we put in jeopardy the progress we have already made in this country in diverting waste from landfills. More importantly, we put in the hands of an increasingly smaller number of waste disposal companies our communities' ability to control the way we manage our trash, and ultimately, our future development."

ately, our future development."

Cole described the reasons why local governments are involved in providing solid waste services, and cited examples of the types of solid waste programs that are dependent upon flow control authority.

He noted that citizens expect recycling and composting services as well as safe disposal facilities. In addition, 42 states have set statutory deadlines for meeting recycling and/or waste reduction target rates, deadlines

the legal tools we need to carry out our responsibilities," he said.

The purpose for the hearing was to educate subcommittee members about the subject of flow control and urge them to postpone action on any specific legislation. Sponsors of the only flow control bills currently filed in the House were present to explain their proposals.

Representative David Minge (D-Minn.) and Representative Alex McMillan (R-N.C.) have introduced

**"Flow control is essential to county governments, whether we collect the trash, provide recycling programs, dispose of waste, or merely provide oversight and management of private solid waste services."**

James D. Cole  
Genesee County (Mich.) commissioner  
NACo Solid and Hazardous Waste Subcommittee chair

which fall squarely on the shoulders of local governments to meet. Private waste companies have no such obligations, Cole said.

Cole reminded the subcommittee members that not one cent from the federal budget is received by counties to plan or implement solid waste management programs.

"As long as the federal government is unwilling to help us pay for these programs, they should at least give us

separate bills, H.R. 2649 and H.R. 1357, respectively, to give states and local governments the authority to designate sites where solid waste is to be delivered.

Chairman Al Swift (D-Wash.) expressed understanding for the problems of counties and cities in managing waste, and said that he was hopeful that legislation could be passed by the House during the 1993-94 congressional session.

## House GOP introduces welfare reform bill

By Brian K. Lagana  
legislative assistant

House Republicans introduced their version of welfare reform legislation on Nov. 10, several months ahead of Democratic-sponsored reform legislation. H.R. 3490, which has 160 of 175 Republicans as co-sponsors, would save \$31 billion over five years, according to initial Congressional Budget Office estimates. Plans call for \$20 billion to be dedicated to deficit reduction and the remainder to training and education. The GOP plan seeks to make these savings through a series of sanctions and cuts in current welfare programs.

The plan calls for mothers to use their first two years on AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) to participate in education, training, work experience and job search to prepare for a position in the private economy. If they do not find a job within that period, they must participate in a community work job program to continue receiving their benefits. The bill would provide an additional \$10 billion to states for employment services and daycare.

The legislation, when fully implemented, requires 63 percent of mothers who have been receiving AFDC for at least two years to work 35 hours per week for their benefits. Fathers of children on welfare who do not pay child support must also participate in work programs.

In addition, one adult in a two-parent family receiving welfare benefits must work 32 hours per week while devoting eight hours per week to searching for a job beginning the first day they receive benefits. Mothers who refuse to work will have their benefits reduced and then terminated. States which fail to ensure that parents work will face severe financial penalties.

The GOP plan also seeks to ensure greater parental responsibility through paternity establishment. All mothers applying for welfare must identify the father of their children or they will not receive benefits. After identifying the father, mothers will receive reduced benefits until paternity is legally established. States will be required to increase their paternity establishment rates to 90 percent over a period of years or face additional financial sanctions.

Additionally, states will be required to stop increasing welfare check amounts when families on welfare have additional children. States will also be required to stop paying welfare benefits to parents under age 18, while requiring underage mothers to live in their parents home, thereby preventing them from using an illegitimate birth to establish their own household.

The bill would make additional savings by eliminating benefits for most non-citizens, with the exception of those over 75 years old, and allowing only refugees to receive benefits for a limited time, unless they become citizens.

The legislation would attack wel-

fare on several other fronts as well by:

- requiring substance-addicted welfare recipients to participate in treatment or lose their benefits
- converting 10 major food programs into a block grant that provides states with almost total discretion over spending, but reduces funding for the programs by five percent
- capping spending on SSI, AFDC, food stamps, public and Section 8 housing, and the Earned Income Tax Credit to inflation, plus two percent per year
- allowing states greater control over means testing
- allowing states to permit recipients to accumulate assets to start a business, buy a home or attend college
- requiring states to end cash payments of benefits to families that do not have their preschool children immunized, or assure that their children attend school on a regular basis
- requiring states, in most cases, to stop welfare payments to unmarried parents under the age of 18, and
- allowing states to require AFDC parents to participate in parenting and money management classes.

President Clinton is planning to send his welfare reform proposal to Congress early next year. The Administration has recently concluded a series of five nationwide hearings on welfare reform convened by the Administration's Intergovernmental Working Group on Welfare Reform.

# NACo questions Clinton health care plan in House testimony

By Thomas L. Joseph III  
associate legislative director

NACo continues to press its concerns about the role of counties in President Clinton's proposed health care reform package.

In testimony before the House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee, earlier this month, Monterey County (Calif.) Supervisor Barbara Shipnuck told committee members that "while President Clinton's health legislation addresses many of the principles of NACo policy, county officials are still very concerned about some provisions key to their role in a new system."

Shipnuck focused the committee's attention on three of those provisions: the reimbursement of county facilities serving the underserved during transition to reform, the role of counties in governing the system, and the differential treatment between private and public employers.

## Reimbursement questions

She pointed out that the treatment of county providers remains unclear in the proposal, since there is no specific mention or guarantee that, during the transition, they will receive reimbursement from health plans.

At issue is the concern that individuals who are accustomed to receiving care from a county facility may continue to do so even though they are in a health plan which has its own network of hospitals and doctors. Without a short-term requirement that health plans pay for those county medical services, the county would be unable to bill the plan and would shoulder those costs with county taxpayer dollars.

Shipnuck added, "Some may argue that this is a county 'turf' issue.



Photo by Traci Dove

Monterey County (Calif.) Supervisor Barbara Shipnuck testifies on behalf of NACo before the House Health Subcommittee.

It is not. A truly reformed system should not re-create a two-tier delivery system. Under a per capita payment, health plans have little incentive to reimburse providers that they have no contractual obligation with.

Access to universal coverage must be accomplished and a short-term, special status will help accomplish that principle."

Shipnuck also noted that incarcerated individuals will not be guaranteed federal benefits. She expressed concern not only of the county costs of providing health services to jail detainees, but also the jeopardy the family may face from losing cover-

age and becoming part of the group of individuals subsidized by the federal government.

## State system's design

The county role in designing the overall state system is also not recognized in the president's plan. Nor is there formal county consultation established for states applying for public health, home and community-based care, or mental health access grants. Yet, states applying for these funds must assure that their funds and county funds will be maintained. Shipnuck argued, "We are under no illusion that any state will repeal its provision making counties the provider of last resort. If states claim our funds and services, then we must be partners in their initiatives."

## Public vs. private employers

Finally, the unequal treatment between public and private employers was raised. "Some counties employing 5,000 or more employees want to have the same option to become their own alliance as similar sized corporations," Shipnuck stated.

She added, "Counties also must be included in the same payroll cap as business.

"Private businesses have been given assurances that no more than 7.9 percent of their total payroll will go toward meeting their premium contribution for the comprehensive standard benefit.

"Yet, public employers will not get that same treatment until the year 2002."

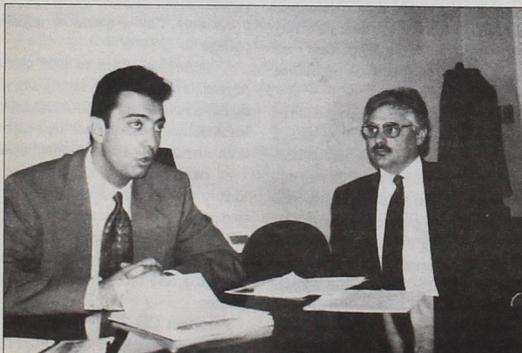


Photo by Donald Murray

Michael Camunez (l), senior policy advisor for the Corporation for National Service, was one of several speakers at a White House briefing for members of the National Association of County Intergovernmental Relations Officers (NACIRO). At right is John H. Easter, senior public policy analyst for the Iowa State Association of Counties and NACIRO president.

# NACo

## on the move

◆ A delegation from Beijing, China visited NACo headquarters Nov. 4 where they got a briefing on the county role in America's health care system from Associate Legislative Directors **Tom Joseph** and **Donald Murray** and County Health Policy Project Director **Mary Uyeda**.

Joseph was in Sarasota County, Fla., Nov. 12, to address a group of community health leaders from Florida on the county role in health care.

◆ New Castle County (Del.) Executive **Dennis Greenhouse** has been honored by the Arthritis Foundation of Delaware with the 1993 Lifetime Achievement Award. Greenhouse has assisted the foundation in promoting numerous fund-raising events, and has helped increase awareness about the disease and the need for continued research for relief and a cure.

◆ Three of NACo's steering committees held meetings over the past few weeks in Washington: Transportation, staffed by Associate Legislative Director **Bob Fogel**; Environment, Energy and Land Use, staffed by Associate Legislative Director **Diane Shea**; and Agriculture and Rural Affairs, staffed by Legislative Director **Ralph Tabor**. The Intergovernmental Affairs Steering Committee, staffed by Associate Legislative Director **Donald Murray**, met in Charlotte, N.C.

◆ Members of the National Council of Elected County Executives also gathered in Washington for their fall meeting on November 4-5. They met with several Administration officials, including Transportation Secretary Federico Peña and Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs Marcia Hale.

◆ NACo's Large Urban County Caucus also came to Washington for a meeting, Oct. 28, where they discussed priorities for the coming year. While there, the group had meetings with Rep. Tom Foglietta (D-Pa.), chair of the House Urban Caucus, and Paul Weinstein, White House senior policy analyst for domestic policy.

◆ NACo was well represented at the Virginia Association of Counties meeting, Nov. 7-9 in Hot Springs, Va. President **Barbara Todd** addressed the group, Project Director **Sandy Markwood** spoke at a workshop on volunteerism, and Associate Legislative Director **Bob Fogel** talked about cable TV issues at another session. Membership Coordinator **Susan Parrish** was on hand to promote NACo membership, as was Research Assistant **Lou Witt** to talk up the NACo Radon Project.

◆ At a conference on the survival of local government in West Virginia, Nov. 13 in Charleston, Research Assistant **Peter Lane** was part of a panel on non-revenue solutions where he spoke about the advantages of county volunteer programs.

◆ Second Vice President **Doug Bovin** traveled to Soldotna, Alaska, Nov. 11, to speak at the Alaska Municipal League conference.

◆ On Nov. 4-9, Executive Director **Larry Naake** was in St. Croix, Virgin Islands for a Public Technology, Inc. Board of Directors meeting.

# County News

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

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Published biweekly except August by:  
National Association of Counties Research Foundation, Inc.  
440 First Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001-2080  
202-393-6226 FAX 202-393-2630

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POSTMASTER: send address changes to *County News*, 440 First St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001  
(USPS 704-620) • (ISSN: 0744-9798)

# Transportation planning regs issued, outreach meetings scheduled

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) issued the final regulations implementing the metropolitan and statewide planning requirements of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991.

The metropolitan provisions have been revised and the statewide requirements are new. Both include sections on the planning and project selection process. The regulations can be found in the Oct. 28, 1993 *Federal Register*.

Additionally, DOT will hold eight regional hearings in December, January and February to explain the regulations. Copies of the regulations and information on the hearings can be obtained from NACo.

Date	Region	Site
Dec. 6-8, 1993	Federal Region 5	Palmer House, 17 East Monroe St., Chicago, IL 60603, 312/726-7500
Dec. 14-16, 1993	Federal Regions 1 & 2	Hyatt Regency, 2 Albany St., New Brunswick, NJ 08901
Jan. 13-14, 1994	Federal Region 3	Sheraton Washington, 2660 Woodley Road, N.W., Connecticut Ave., Washington, DC 20009, 202/328-2000
Jan. 19-21, 1994	Federal Region 9	San Francisco Hilton and Towers, 333 O'Farrell at Mason, San Francisco, CA 94142, 415/771-1400
Jan. 24-25, 1994	Federal Region 10	Red Lion Lloyd Center, 1000 N.E. Multnomah, Portland, OR 97232, 503/281-6111
Jan. 27-28, 1994	Federal Region 7 & 8	Denver Radisson, 1550 Court Place, Denver, CO 80202, 303/893-3333
Feb. 8-9, 1994	Federal Region 6	The Arlington Hilton, 2401 East Lamar Blvd., Arlington, TX 76006, 817/640-3322
Feb. 23-25, 1994	Federal Region 4	Westin Peachtree, 210 Peachtree St., Atlanta, GA 30303, 404/659-1400

The purpose of the meetings is to provide a briefing on the content of the regulations, respond to questions concerning the implementation of the rules, and to support and build working relationships among key public agencies charged with implementing the provisions of ISTEA and other in-

involved organizations and individuals. The regulations will be discussed and summarized by Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) staff, followed by an opportunity for questions and answers.

FTA and FHWA intend to dis-

tribute a videotaped presentation on the new planning and conformity requirements to all interested groups in early 1994. FTA and FHWA field offices also are available to answer questions on these regulations.

The National Transit Institute (NTI) and the National Highway

Institute (NHI) are co-sponsors for these meetings. Further information for each meeting, except the Chicago meeting, may be obtained by contacting the NTI at 908/932-1706. For information regarding the Chicago meeting, contact Brenda Rollins of the FTA at 202/366-0829.

# Base closure communities: winners in defense reauthorization

By Haron N. Battle  
associate legislative director

The just-passed 1994 defense authorization bill (H.R. 2401) contains some relief for communities that are converting military bases into civilian uses. Overall, the bill contains provisions that limit the removal of non-military equipment from bases, allow below-market interim lease arrangements, and continue to indemnify local governments and other subsequent users against contamination caused by DoD.

Other important issues addressed in the measure include:

### Transfer of real property

The secretary of the Department of Defense (DoD) will have authority to transfer real and related property at or below fair-market value, at either no cost to the community or for in-kind consideration.

### McKinney Act screening

One of the more sensitive issues that was addressed involved the potential use of closing military bases as sites to provide services to the homeless.

Under the compromise reached, those wishing to provide services to the homeless (including shelter services) will have exclusive right for 60 days to identify property for McKinney purposes (and 90 days to complete their applications).

If providers do not submit applications during this screening process, the communities can proceed with base reuse plans, which then become the preferred option or determining plan.

If a community has not prepared a reuse plan within a year, then the quarterly screening for McKinney uses resumes until the property is disposed. Conferees made this provision retroactive to the 1988 and 1991 base-closure rounds.

### Authority to contract for certain services

DoD will be permitted to contract with local governments for the provision of police services, fire protection, airfield operations and other community services.

In a separate appropriations measure, communities became eligible for grants from the Economic Development Administration in anticipation of receiving closing bases. This will enable the reuse process to begin at an earlier stage.

Many of the civilian conversion provisions adopted in the final defense department bill had been developed during a NACo-convened meeting this past January. The meeting brought together representatives from communities facing the closure of their military bases.

According to Merced County (Calif.) Supervisor Ann Klinger, chair of the NACo Task Force on Defense

Conversion, special credit is also due to Senator David Pryor (D-Ark.), who championed the community-

reuse provisions, and Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.), who worked closely with NACo and the National

Association of Installation Developers on environmental indemnification issues.

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## Former NACo President Woody Dumas dies

Former Baton Rouge (La.) Mayor W.W. "Woody" Dumas, president of NACo from 1965-1966, died on Nov. 5 in Baton Rouge, after a three-year battle with cancer. He was 76.

Dumas was first elected to the Baton Rouge City Council in 1952. In 1964, he won the

race for the combined role of mayor of Baton Rouge and president of the parish.

After four terms, he retired from public office in 1980, but made two unsuccessful comeback attempts in 1984 and 1988.

Dumas is survived by his wife, Carol, and two children, Diane and Woody, Jr.

# Senate panel holds hearings on unfunded mandates

By Larry Jones  
associate legislative director

Before a packed hearing room on Nov. 3, elected officials from all levels of government called on members of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee to take action on legislation to stop or curtail the practice of the federal government imposing unfunded federal mandates on state and local governments. In general, unfunded federal mandates are federal laws and regulations that establish national priorities which must be carried out by state and local governments without any federal assistance.

The hearing was scheduled ex-

actly one week after National Unfunded Mandates Day (Oct. 27). State and local officials across the nation joined forces to launch a national campaign to educate the public on how unfunded mandates are forcing state and local officials to increase taxes and cut vital services. By imposing mandates on states and localities, Congress can also dodge any responsibility for increasing taxes or for setting priorities.

Senator Dirk Kempthorne (R-Idaho) was one of four senators who testified to urge support for mandate relief legislation. He mentioned those in Congress who would argue that with a \$4 trillion debt, the federal government doesn't have the money to pay for

these mandates. As a former mayor, he told members of the committee, "I can tell you that the cities don't have the money, the counties don't have the money and the school boards don't have the money to pay for these mandates."

Kempthorne has introduced the Community Regulatory Relief Act, S. 993, which has 52 co-sponsors, more than any other Senate bill. Under the proposal, state and local governments would not be required to comply with any future federal mandate unless federal funds necessary to implement the mandate are provided.

Senator Carol Moseley-Braun (D-Ill.) also testified. She compared unfunded mandates to trickle-down economics, stating, "I

don't like the mandate variant of trickle-down economics any more than I like the original. Requiring hard-pressed state and local governments to fund programs mandated by the federal government is not good government, and it is not fair to the American people." Sen. Moseley-Braun is a co-sponsor of Kempthorne's proposal. She has also introduced another bill, S. 563, that would require the Congressional Budget Office to conduct a fiscal analysis to determine how much any proposed mandate will cost state and local governments. Such information must be made available when legislation is considered by the full Senate. Susan Ritter, auditor in Renville County, N.D., told the committee

that unfunded mandates are adversely affecting small and rural counties. She urged better cooperation between all levels of government and federal aid to support mandates.

Edward G. Rendell, mayor, Philadelphia City/County, Pa., also testified in favor of Kempthorne's proposal and urged that Congress act now to pass the bill to "put an end to a practice that is figuratively eating cities alive."

Impressed by the growing amount of interest in this issue, Senator John Glenn (D-Ohio), chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, agreed to hold additional hearings, perhaps soon after Congress reconvenes next year.

## Counties observe NUMDay with news conferences, proclamations

Hundreds of counties across the country observed National Unfunded Mandates Day (NUMDay) on Oct. 27 with news conferences, public forums and proclamations.

Nearly 200 sent copies of their proclamations urging an end to unfunded mandates to NACo and also to their representatives in Congress. In many states like Georgia, Oklahoma, Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia and Iowa, the state associations of counties organized activities in the state capitals in coordination with other local government organizations.

NUMDay was the kick-off of a long-term campaign initiated by NACo and other public interest groups in Washington to raise public understanding about the impact of

unfunded mandates on the local level.

In Georgia, the state association of counties organized 10 news conferences across the state, in cooperation with state, city and other local government officials. At the news conference in the state capital, Michael Hightower, NACo third vice president and commissioner, Fulton County, and Liane Levettan, chief executive officer, DeKalb County and member of NACo's Unfunded Mandates Task Force, participated.

State associations in Kentucky, Ohio, Oklahoma and Virginia also organized news conferences in their capitals. Kentucky and Virginia even produced buttons for their officials to wear—Virginia's embla-



zoned with the slogan, "Enough Already!" Kentucky's buttons said, "Stop Unfunded Mandates!" The West Virginia Association of Counties arranged to have public service announcements on the need to stop unfunded mandates broadcast on West Virginia public radio for three days.

Individual counties used different methods to get the message out. Kent County, Mich., worked with county, city and township officials in western Michigan to produce a comprehensive information packet that was distributed at a joint news conference. Hood River County, Ore., asked each of its departments to prepare reports on the costs of unfunded mandates to show the impact on local resources.

In Marion County, Ore., home of NACo First Vice President Randy Franke, NUMDay occurred on the board's regular hearing day. Commissioners conducted a 30-minute discussion on mandates and with the hearings cablecast via public access channels to three cable systems, the

message had the potential of reaching 48,000 subscribers. Marion officials report receiving numerous telephone calls reacting to losing control of local tax dollars through unfunded mandates.

Charles County, Md., not only distributed its news release to the media on NUMDay, but also mailed copies to all county neighborhoods and homeowners' associations. In Illinois, Tazewell County officials produced a flyer that was inserted in the *Pekin Times*, reaching 16,000 subscribers on Saturday, Oct. 23. A number of newspaper clips were produced by activities in Iowa and in New Jersey, where Somerset County made a strong case against unfunded mandates.

## What they're writing about unfunded mandates ...

Editorial writers across the country are acknowledging National Unfunded Mandates Day and the campaign to stop unfunded mandates in a variety of ways. Here's a sample of what they're saying:

### The Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tenn.

"More than good intentions has created the problem. Members of Congress, anxious to please constituents and boast of noble deeds, pass laws without having to account for the cost at the end of the line. They did the same thing with the federal budget — and created annual deficits and the enormous national debt. Unchallenged, they would do the same thing to state and local budgets.

"The revolt is timely. It's necessary. And every local and state official in the land should make it one of his or her political priorities to hound Washington until practical, effective reform is passed."

### The San Diego Union-Tribune San Diego, Calif.

"Let the word go forth, from San



Diego to New York City, from bankrupt counties to cash-starved townships, that Oct. 27, henceforth, shall be known as National Unfunded Mandates Day.

"That is, until lawmakers in Washington discontinue their insidious practice of imposing upon state and local governments costly rules and regulations — called mandates — without providing the dollars to pay for them."

### Salem Statesman-Journal Salem, Ore.

"In complaining, local governments are riding the crest of a wave of citizen discontent. If we're lucky, the combination of pressure from local governments and citi-

zens will persuade Congress to give its bill-publishing machinery a rest.

"But once revved up, citizen dissatisfaction with the cost and frustrations of government can mean that all government, from Congress down to the smallest water district, will get new pressure to run as restrained as possible.

"This may be the real message that comes from local governments' National Unfunded Mandates Day."

### The Record-Argus Greenville, Pa.

"The services (that are mandated) are needed and should be provided. But when state and federal governments mandate services, they should fund them as well. True, all money will come out of taxpayers' pockets. But let the state and federal governments increase their taxes to raise needed funds.

"It's easy for state and federal elected officials to give campaign promises of no tax increases, then pass along the onus to county governments. That increases property taxes."

### Des Moines Register Des Moines, Iowa

"And this year, Oct. 27 has been tagged with perhaps the all-time dullest-sounding appellation ever given by any group that ever believed it could get publicity by labeling some unsuspected day.

"It's National Unfunded Mandates Day.

"Yeech. Somebody sure knows how to ruin a perfectly good day."

### Columnist Eliot Nusbaum Des Moines Register Des Moines, Iowa

"Keep Wednesday open; that's when Americans everywhere — including Iowa — will be celebrating National Unfunded Mandates Day. I'm not kidding; I've got a press release right here that promises, among other things, a press conference at our own state capitol at 9 a.m. Now, I'm sure this is a serious topic and all, but, that name. ... By the way, no word yet on who's going to be grand marshal of the big National Unfunded Man-

dates Day parade."

### The Indianapolis Star Indianapolis, Ind.

"Everyone is for clean air, clean water and effective solid waste disposal. Everyone favors fairness for Americans with disabilities. At the same time, the people who must pay must have a source of the funding that is expected of them.

"Unfunded federal mandates displace state and local priorities. They compel many local governments to raise fees and taxes or to cut services, or both.

"Local governments have been victimized this way for decades. Now they are saying, 'Enough!'

"On Wednesday (October 27), 'No more unfunded mandates!' will be heard across Indiana and the nation. National Unfunded Mandates Day will spotlight the hidden taxes the federal government passes on to local government. The burden forces up local property taxes. It leaves less money for streets, police and fire protection, sewers, hospitals, schools, and infrastructure maintenance."

# Thank you for making NUMDay a success

Thank you to all the counties that held activities and issued proclamations in observance of National Unfunded Mandates Day on October 27. This is the beginning of a long-term campaign to stop unfunded federal mandates.

Here is a list of the counties and state associations of counties that sent information about their activities or copies of their proclamations:

**Alabama**

Colbert County

**Arizona**

La Paz County

**California**

Del Norte County  
Imperial County  
Mendocino County  
Merced County  
Monterey County  
Tehama County  
San Diego County

**Colorado**

Mesa County  
Morgan County

**Delaware**

New Castle County

**Florida**

Hillsborough County  
Indian River County  
Pasco County  
Pinellas County  
Suwannee County  
Walton County

**Georgia**

Association of County Commissioners of Georgia  
Bibb County  
Camden County  
Charlton County  
Chatham County  
Chattooga County  
Cherokee County  
Cobb County  
Colquitt County  
Cook County  
Coweta County  
Dawson County  
DeKalb County  
Dooly County  
Floyd County  
Fulton County  
Glascock County  
Hall County  
Haralson County  
Houston County  
Oconee County  
Upson County  
Ware County  
Wilkes County

**Idaho**

Lemhi County

**Illinois**

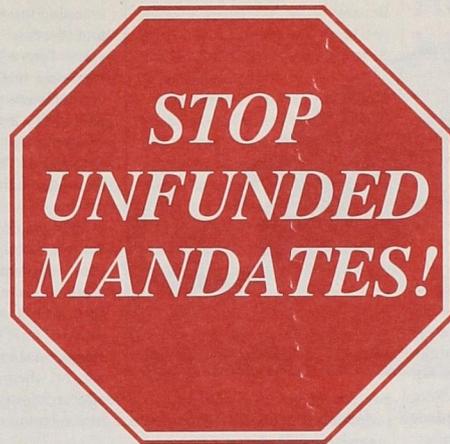
Effingham County  
Kankakee County  
Tazewell County

**Indiana**

Association of Indiana Counties, Inc.  
Madison County  
Martin County

**Iowa**

Iowa State Association of Counties  
Calhoun County  
Jackson County  
Osceola County  
Pottawattamie County



**Kansas**

Barton County  
Clay County  
Ford County  
Linn County  
Neosho County  
Pottawatomie County  
Wilson County

**Kentucky**

Kentucky Association of Counties  
Grant County  
Henry County  
Hickman County

**Louisiana**

Concordia Parish  
Rapides Parish

**Maryland**

Allegany County  
Charles County  
Frederick County  
Prince George's County  
Queen Annes County

**Michigan**

Barry County  
Eaton County  
Kent County  
Montcalm County  
Muskegon County  
Oceana County  
Wayne County

**Minnesota**

Cass County  
Dakota County  
Koochiching County  
Redwood County

**Montana**

Anaconda County  
Chouteau County  
Custer County  
Pondera County  
Yellowstone County

**Nebraska**

Boone County  
Morrill County  
Scotts Bluff County

**Nevada**

Elko County  
White Pine County

**New Jersey**

Mercer County  
Somerset County

**New Mexico**

New Mexico Association of Counties  
Guadalupe County  
McKinley County

**New York**

Cattaraugus County  
Monroe County  
Seneca County

**North Carolina**

North Carolina Association of County Commissioners  
Jones County  
Lee County  
Randolph County  
Vance County  
Wilkes County

**North Dakota**

Burleigh County  
Ramsey County

**Ohio**

Ashland County  
Auglaize County  
Clinton County  
Hamilton County  
Holmes County  
Jefferson County  
Marion County  
Monroe County  
Muskingum County  
Noble County  
Tuscarawas County

**Oklahoma**

Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma  
Garfield County  
Major County

**Oregon**

Hood River County  
Lane County  
Linn County

Marion County

**Pennsylvania**

Pennsylvania State Association of County Commissioners  
Adams County  
Allegheny County  
Armstrong County  
Beaver County  
Butler County  
Clarion County  
Elk County  
Fayette County  
Greene County  
Huntingdon County  
Lancaster County  
Lawrence County  
McKean County  
Mercer County  
Northampton County  
Schuylkill County  
Susquehanna County  
Washington County  
Westmoreland County  
Wyoming County

**South Carolina**

Spartanburg County

**South Dakota**

Bennett County  
Brown County  
Douglas County  
Lyman County  
Marshall County

**Tennessee**

Fentress County  
Henderson County  
Lauderdale County  
Montgomery County  
Shelby County

**Texas**

Texas Association of Counties  
Austin County  
Bexar County  
Blanco County  
Foard County  
Johnson County  
King County  
Marion County  
Shackelford County  
Yoakum County

**Virginia**

Virginia Association of Counties  
Bath County  
Cumberland County  
James City/County  
Westmoreland County  
Wise County

**Washington**

Island County  
Kitsap County  
Kithitas County

**West Virginia**

West Virginia Association of Counties  
McDowell County  
Ohio County

**Wisconsin**

Wood County

# NACo-supported drinking water bill introduced

By Diane S. Shea  
associate legislative director

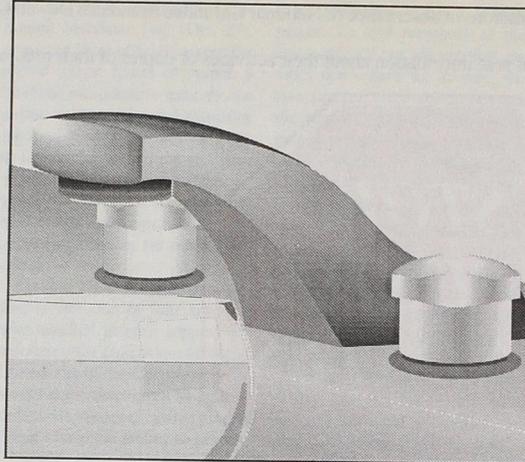
Representatives Jim Slattery (D-Kan.) and Thomas Bliley, Jr. (R-Va.) have introduced legislation (H.R. 3392) reauthorizing the Safe Drinking Water Act that NACo and a broad coalition of state and local government organizations, as well as major municipal and rural water systems, strongly support.

The Slattery/Bliley bill allows water systems to focus on the most critical contaminants, and introduces consideration of public health benefits as well as costs into the Safe Drinking Water Act for the first time.

The bill's concentration on standard setting was not addressed by S. 1547, an authorization proposal introduced by Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.). (See *County News*, Nov. 8, 1993)

## Standard setting

H.R. 3392 establishes new maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) based not only on scientific detectability of pollutants, as in the current law, but also on so-called "best-available technology,"



health benefits achieved through reducing risk levels and cost.

It would require EPA to establish separate best-available technology for public water systems serving fewer than 1,000 people, for systems serving between 1,001 and 10,000 people, and for systems serving more than 10,000 people. Watershed protection programs and pollution prevention efforts, while not mandated, would be con-

sidered elements of achieving best-available technology.

## Contaminants

EPA would be required, within 18 months, to eliminate monitoring, compliance and enforcement requirements for contaminants already regulated under current law that do not occur in water at levels of public health concern.

For contaminants for which stan-

dards have not yet been finalized, but are required to be set by the 1986 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments, standards would be set using the revised standard-setting process.

For future contaminants to be regulated, the bill would scrap the current law requiring EPA to set 25 new MCLs every three years, and replace it with a selection process focusing on the actual occurrence of contaminants in drinking water systems.

EPA would be required to develop a national "occurrence data base" of contaminants found in drinking water. Using the data, EPA would determine through a public rule-making process whether a standard is warranted or not, or whether additional health effects information is needed before a determination can be made.

## Compliance timetables

The bill increases from 18 months to 24 months the time provided for states to adopt regulations, and sets the time frame for drinking water systems to comply with the regulations based on the time needed to plan, finance, design and construct treatment facilities.

## Variations

States would be authorized to grant variances if a system cannot afford to install the best available technology to remove contaminants or if it is not feasible to connect with another source of water that meets the highest standards. Such systems, primarily the very small systems, would be required to meet a "best-available affordable technology" standard. Public notice and opportunity for comment would be required before the alternative standard could be approved.

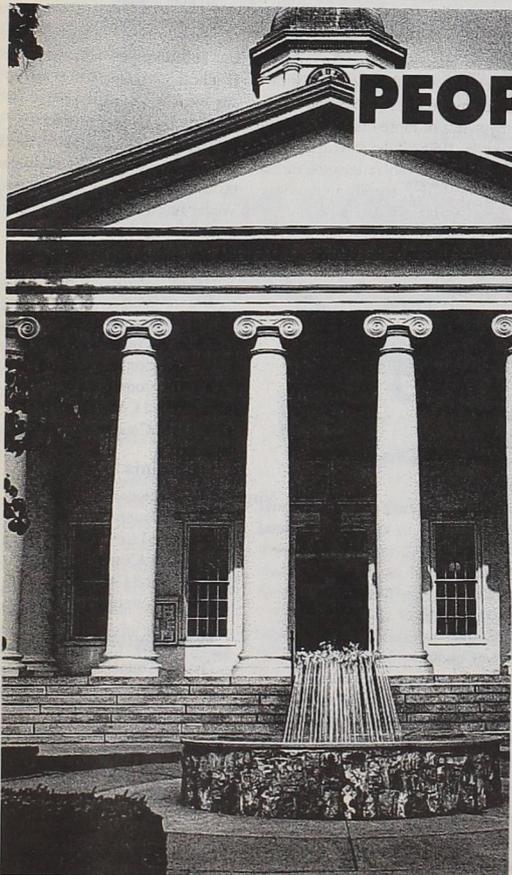
## Funding

The bill authorizes grants to states to operate drinking water programs in the amounts of \$100 million in FY94, \$125 million in FY95 and \$150 million per year in FY96-98.

## Radon

Some contaminants, like disinfectant byproducts, are created when drinking water is treated to control other contaminants, potentially causing more danger than the original pollutant. These "anomalies" are not suitable for regulation

See *DRINKING WATER*, page 9



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# The White House issues order to expand purchase of recycled-content products

President Clinton, after months of negotiations with NACo, other local government organizations, environmental groups and the paper industry, issued an Executive Order on Oct. 20 to increase the federal government's purchase of recycled-content paper. Although the Executive Order applies only to the federal government, recycling groups are hopeful that it will serve as a model of procurement for state and local governments.

The Executive Order, which requires federal agencies and the military to purchase paper

with a minimum of 20 percent post-consumer paper content (30 percent by the end of 1998), will give industry an important signal to invest in equipment to recycle used paper and thereby expand markets for locally collected material. Currently, paper is the largest single item in the municipal solid waste stream.

Under the order, federal agencies will also be required to purchase re-refined lubricating oil, retread tires, and other items in compliance with Resource Conservation and Recovery Act provisions and EPA procurement guidelines.

Vice President Al Gore, in announcing the order, said, "This Executive Order will create a strong market for the paper now being collected by more than 5,500 community recycling programs all across our country — programs that involve more than a third of all Americans."

The federal government buys about two percent of the 22 million tons of printing and writing paper produced annually in the United States, and total federal, state and local government purchasing makes up about 18 to 20 percent of the gross national product. Eighty counties currently have some type

of "buy recycled" program, but more are expected to follow suit.

For more information on federal

or local recycled product procurement programs, call Naomi Friedman at NACo at 202/942-4262.

## DRINKING WATER from page 8

under a normal standard-setting process.

Radon is included in a list of other anomalies which will need special standards, to be set by EPA, considering the health benefits to be achieved by reducing the level, the availability of technology, cost and other factors.

### Citizen lawsuits

Local governments providing drinking water systems would be protected from civil suits if the system is operating under the terms of a compliance order or consent de-

gree, and is in compliance with such an order or decree.

Environmental groups and some congressional opponents of the bill have attacked H.R. 3392, charging that it will "gut the Safe Drinking Water Act and undermine public health."

To set the record straight on such mischaracterizations of the bill, NACo and the coalition of state and local government organizations have countered with a "Fact Versus Fiction" document that illustrates how EPA's standards have required millions of dollars to be

spent needlessly on monitoring and testing.

Copies of the document and other information on the drinking water bills are available upon request from NACo, by calling 202/942-4269.

Nearly 50 members of the House have signed on to H.R. 3392; many more co-sponsors are needed in this important effort. In addition, Senate sponsors are being sought for a soon-to-be-introduced version of the bill. Please contact your congressional delegation and urge their support.

## RALLY from page 1

flat while the cost of providing services to federally owned land has steadily increased," Franke told the subcommittee. "All we're asking for is a more fair payment for services provided by counties." Counties provide a variety of services to public lands, including roads that permit access to public lands, solid waste disposal, law enforcement, and search and rescue services.

To prevent further loss in dollar value in the future, the program must be indexed for inflation, Franke said. "If the original program had this provision, I would not be before you

today asking for an increase in the authorized level."

In his home state of Oregon, Franke said that 48 percent of the land is federally owned, while the federal government owns 34 percent of the land in Colorado and California, 61 percent in Utah, and 85 percent in Nevada. "These vast holdings of federal tax-exempt lands have long deprived many counties of a viable tax base," Franke said.

To illustrate the critical nature of the PILT Program to counties, Franke pointed out that in New Mexico, PILT payments comprise

more than 50 percent of the general operating budget of six counties and more than 40 percent in another five. In Otero County alone, Franke said, PILT payments represent almost 80 percent of that county's budget. In eastern Oregon, Harney County, the ninth largest county in the continental United States, with a land area of more than six million acres, 74 percent of the land is owned by federal land management agencies, he said.

"Harney County (Ore.) provides eight rural solid waste disposal sites that primarily service federal lands at a cost of \$20,000 per year," Franke

told the subcommittee. "In order to meet new subtitle D standards enacted by Congress, we are now facing a cost of more than \$800,000 a year by 1995. If the federal government does not share in some of the responsibility for implementing these new landfill standards, Harney County, and every other public lands county facing these same requirements, will be hard pressed to provide solid waste services in our communities."

In 1976, when the PILT Program was originally enacted into law, the property tax accounted for 26 per-

cent of county own-source revenues, Franke pointed out. Today, counties are even more dependent on the property tax to raise revenues.

"In public lands counties across the nation, this places additional pressures on scarce private property. We are reaching the saturation point in terms of property to tax and willingness on the part of the citizens to endure property tax increases," Franke said. "And we are further squeezed by property tax limitation measures than have been enacted in 30 states. These constraints make the PILT payments even more critical."

Franke also told the subcommittee that, in recent years, there has been an increased demand in national park use.

This has translated into an increased demand for services to public lands at a time when county governments are struggling to maintain balanced budgets.

Franke concluded by telling the subcommittee that public lands counties are looking to Congress as a partner in helping them to cope with this dilemma. The burden of federal land ownership should be spread among all the people of the United States, he said.

"Congress agreed and accepted that responsibility when it enacted PILT in 1976 and we respectfully suggest that it is now time for Congress to renew the commitment to that responsibility."

## ENDANGERED from page 1

ernments who must provide a variety of services to those public lands, she explained. Instead, the federal government provides assistance to local governments through PILT.

Kolar also explained that 83 percent of the land in her county is federally owned. "Boise County, which has a population of 3,500, receives \$89,000 from the PILT Program annually. One hundred percent of that money goes to law enforcement," she said. "In the past two years, our county has had to investigate and prosecute three murders on public lands. We have already spent more than \$350,000 on those cases, exceeding, by far, what we've received from the PILT Program."

"The problem with PILT is that it has not received a funding increase since it was created," said Garfield County (Utah) Commissioner Louise Liston, chair of the Public Lands Steering Committee.

"At the same time, costs to counties have risen dramatically," she continued. "Counties use PILT funds to provide basic local services such as search and rescue, emergency medical, law enforcement, solid waste disposal, road maintenance, and snow plowing to enable federal agencies to protect and manage its national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and other recreational lands."

Liston explained that her county's economy, already hard-hit by the

## "Jobs have been eliminated and businesses have shut down due to federal policy and court decisions."

Clerk Arlene C. Kolar  
Boise County, Idaho

NACo Public Lands Steering Committee member

closure of a local timber mill, is bracing itself for yet another federal blow. "We handle the solid waste for more than two million national park visitors each year," she said. "The cost of providing this service could skyrocket under Subtitle D and devastate our budget."

Plumas County (Calif.) Supervisor Bill Coates, president of NACo's

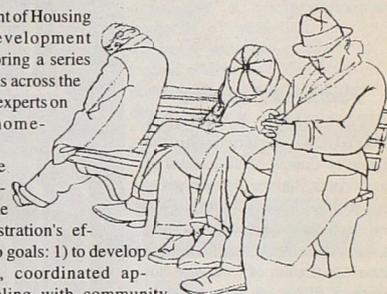
Western Interstate Region, echoed the call for increased PILT funding.

"I'm not sure Congress fully understands the need for these rural communities — communities that provide infrastructure that keeps public lands safe and clean," he said. "If the federal government didn't have these communities, it would have to invent them."

## HUD seeks input on homeless issues

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is sponsoring a series of one-day forums across the country for local experts on how to end homelessness.

The interactive sessions are an integral part of the Clinton Administration's efforts to fulfill two goals: 1) to develop comprehensive, coordinated approaches to dealing with community problems through partnerships between federal, state, local governments and private organizations; and 2) President Clinton's Executive Order calling for the development of a single coordinated federal plan to break the cycle of homelessness. There is no fee to attend the forums.



HUD Homelessness Forums		
Date	City	Site
Tuesday, Nov. 30	New York, N.Y.	Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza 1605 Broadway
Tuesday, Dec. 7	Boston, Mass.	Sheraton Boston 39 Dalton Street
Tuesday, Dec. 14	Phoenix, Ariz.	Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza 11 North Central Avenue

**Moderator**

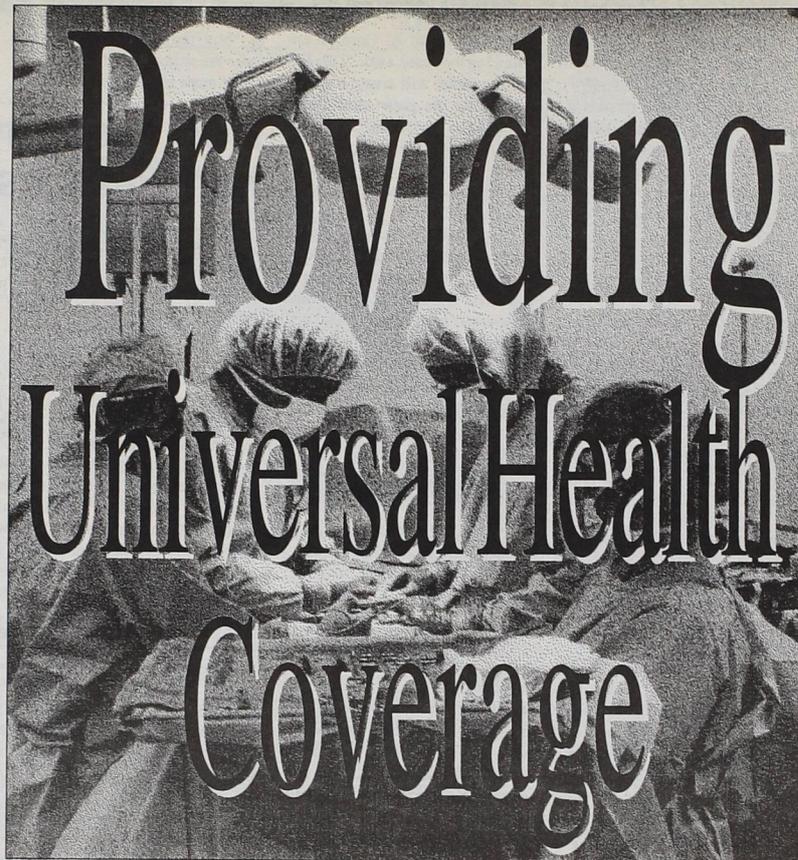
**PAUL DUKE** . . . is the moderator for this videoconference. He is a veteran broadcast journalist and host of PBS' popular, *Washington Week in Review*.

**Featured Panelists**

**SUPERVISOR BARBARA SHIPNUCK** . . . is chairwoman of the Monterey County (Calif.) Board of Supervisors. She was first elected to the Monterey County Board in 1978 and has been re-elected three times. A former president of the California State Association of Counties, Supervisor Shipnuck was recently named 1993 "County Leader of the Year" by *American City and County*, a national magazine which covers local government. She currently serves on the board of directors of the National Association of Counties and chaired its task force to promote the county role in health system reform from 1992-1993.

**ROBERT BERENSON, M.D., F.A.C.P.** . . . is a board-certified internist in private group practice in Washington, D.C. He was a co-chair of two working groups on the staff of the Clinton Administration's Health Care Task Force. While serving on the White House domestic policy staff in the Carter Administration, he worked on national health policy issues including hospital cost containment and national health insurance. Dr. Berenson is a co-founder of the National Capital Preferred Provider Organization and maintains an active policy research and consulting career.

**THOMAS CHAPMAN, M.P.H.** . . . is president of the Greater Southeast Healthcare System in Washington, D.C. He manages a network of hospitals, nursing homes, home care services, pharmacies, medical office buildings, and community outreach programs in southeast Washington and southern Prince George's County, MD. Prior to this, he served as president of Greater Southeast Community Hospital, a 450-bed full-service urban hospital. He advised the National Health Care Task Force on how to provide care to people who are currently without medical services.

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**W**hile the United States spends 14 percent of its gross domestic product on health, 13 percent of Americans remain uninsured. There are now some 37 million Americans without any form of health insurance. An estimated 20 million more have such limited coverage that they are severely under insured.

The Clinton Administration Health Care Reform Plan proposes comprehensive benefits for all American citizens and legal residents regardless of health or employment status. The President's plan calls for state-based health alliances that would contract with health plans and bargain on behalf of area consumers and employers.

There is already competition for the Clinton Administration's plan. Legislation has been introduced in Congress for a single-payer system of health care under which a government entity would collect taxes from corpora-

tions and individuals and pay for all health care services that would be administered at the state level. The single-payer plan would provide coverage for the uninsured and underinsured. Other proposals before Congress would reform the current health care system but not provide for those without insurance.

While the federal government debates establishing "universal health coverage" on a national basis, a number of states have moved beyond this phase and implemented programs to do just that. Against this backdrop, successful implementation of "universal health coverage" promises to be one of the most important challenges before our nation today.

*Providing Universal Health Coverage*, the second videoconference in the **TRANSFORMATION OF AMERICAN HEALTH CARE** series, will:

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Americans have no health insurance.

- Show how uninsured children and adults not receiving health care often become more costly to treat when they do access the system.
- Explore the relationship between skyrocketing medical costs and a large uninsured population.
- Tell how state and local governments are implementing plans to provide universal health coverage for their residents.
- Provide an opportunity for videoconference participants to question health policy experts about the creation of a universal health coverage program.

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**MARILYN MOON, Ph.D.** . . . is a senior research associate with the Health Policy Center of the Urban Institute. She has written extensively on health policy, issues affecting the elderly, and income distribution. Her current work focuses on health system reform and financing. She recently co-authored a monograph entitled, *"Balancing Access, Costs, and Politics: The American Context for Health System Reform."* One of her recent articles was entitled, *"Can States Take the Lead in Health Care Reform?"*

**RISA LAVIZZO-MOUREY, M.D., M.B.A.** . . . is deputy administrator of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research within the U.S. Public Health Service. She is a board-certified internist and geriatrician. Her research involves geriatric medicine and disease and disability prevention as well as health care issues affecting minority populations. She has served on numerous federal advisory committees including the National Committee for Vital and Health Statistics and co-chaired the Working Group on Quality of Care for President Clinton's National Health Care Task Force.

**BRUCE VLADECK, Ph.D.** . . . is administrator of the U.S. Health Care Financing Administration in the Department of Health and Human Services and directs the Medicare and Medicaid programs that helped pay the medical bills of 67 million Americans and expended almost \$230 billion in fiscal year 1993. From 1983 to 1993, he served as president of the United Hospital Fund of New York in New York City. He has also served as a director of the New York Health and Hospitals Corporation, and as a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences where he chaired the committee on health care for homeless people.

## News from the nation's counties

### North

#### NEW JERSEY

• The **MIDDLESEX COUNTY** Cultural and Heritage Commission's dedication to local arts activities has been recognized by the Cable Television Network (CTN). The commission was presented with CTN's Award for Programming Excellence for its monthly program, "The Arts," under the category of Best Single Program, Culture, Community Service Division, Public Access Producer.

The award honors quality programs that "make a significant contribution to the quality of production about New Jersey and its residents."

"The Arts" is a monthly, half-hour show about the visual and performing arts in central New Jersey. This year's award-winning program was a segment that featured another commission project, "Echoes of a Storyteller: Legends, Mythology and Games of New Jersey," which is on exhibit at the Middlesex County Museum.

#### NEW YORK

• **WESTCHESTER COUNTY** Legislator Martin Rogowsky has reintroduced a proposal that would authorize towns to allow low-income senior citizens to pay their county property taxes in two installments.

The proposal would authorize

towns to collect half of the county property tax in April and the other half in August, interest-free. A similar law passed by the state last year allows low-income seniors to pay property taxes in two installments, but requires seniors to pay interest on the second installment. Rogowsky's proposal will have to pass both the county board and the state legislature to become effective.

#### PENNSYLVANIA

• The **ALLEGHENY COUNTY** Board of Commissioners recently approved the sale of more than \$75 million worth of county general obligation bonds to a group of underwriters led by Smith Barney Shearson.

By refinancing two existing general obligation bond issues, county taxpayers will save \$2.8 million in the form of lower debt service payments in 1994. Savings could reach \$3.1 million if the treasury market remains stable.

### South

#### FLORIDA

• By investing \$36,000 — in postage, labor and printing costs — for "special courtesy notices" to nearly 79,000 residents with one or two unpaid parking tickets, **DADE COUNTY** Clerk Harvey Ruvlin's Parking Violations Bureau was able to bring in \$525,000 in the first 10

months of the year.

By virtue of a new state law which went into effect earlier this year, scofflaws with three or more outstanding tickets are unable to renew their license tags without first paying their fines. According to Ruvlin, the courtesy notice gently reminds residents to pay their parking tickets and helps them to avoid problems when they go to re-register their vehicles.

#### MARYLAND

• **FOUR MONTGOMERY COUNTY** agencies will save an estimated \$1.94 million annually in employee health benefit costs — the result of a cooperative purchasing effort that allows the agencies to provide their employees with the same benefits at significantly reduced rates due to lower administrative costs. Nearly half of the savings are the result of discounts in the prescription drug program.

The agencies are considering investing a portion of the savings into wellness programs for their 26,000 employees.

### Midwest

#### MINNESOTA

• The **DAKOTA COUNTY** Board of Commissioners recently took a major change in direction in its approach to managing solid waste by adopting a proposal to use ordinances and licensing to reduce

landfilling, rather than developing publicly owned facilities to process waste.

The "regulated free market approach" moves the county away from its plans to build and operate a facility to process unrecycled garbage. Instead, stronger ordinances and licensing requirements, including mandatory recycling, will be used to maximize materials recovery and reduce landfilling in the county.

### West

#### CALIFORNIA

• The **SANTA CLARA COUNTY** Nonpoint Source Pollu-

tion Control Program has been selected to receive EPA's 1993 first place award for an outstanding Storm Water Management Program in the Municipal category.

The program is jointly administered by the county, the Santa Clara Valley Water District and 13 cities that discharge stormwater to the San Francisco Bay.

These agencies have jointly developed a comprehensive program of pollution control measures, including public information efforts, new development planning and elimination of illegal dumping.

For more information, contact Muriel Fulford at 408/299-2521.

## More news from . . .

**JACKSON COUNTY, OHIO**, one of the state's poorest and most rural counties, is putting itself on the map by becoming the most accurately mapped county in the state.

Jackson is the first county to be mapped by a mobile mapping system developed by the Ohio State University (OSU) Center for Mapping. The computer-equipped van receives signals from satellites 13,000 miles away to map roads and surrounding infrastructure while driving at normal speeds.

The map it creates will pinpoint every curve in the road, traffic sign, bridge and roadside building. In addition to serving county engineers, the map will become a base for individual property data in Jackson County. Firefighters can use it to pinpoint the fire hydrants nearest to a scene and emergency managers can use it to determine exactly which homes are threatened in a severe storm. Countless private sector uses may be developed.

The mapping system, which integrates a global positioning system, inertial navigation, digital stereoscopic imaging and geographic information system technology, is currently under development by NASA, OSU and the Department of Transportation. Global Visions, Inc., a Virginia-based firm, has been licensed to market the technology commercially.

## Reno on TV violence: the leader we've been waiting for

By Neal R. Peirce  
Washington Post Writers Group

Could Janet Reno be to television violence what C. Everett Koop was to smoking?

The attorney general's tough warning to the entertainment industry last week — clean up your act or face federal controls — came like an elixir. This is the act of courageous leadership from the top of American government that we've waited for years to hear.

Predictably, bleatings of First Amendment infringement are emanating from the entertainment industry as it contemplates Reno's threat.

Yet she isn't asking much. She's only asking that film and video producers handle brutal violence — shootings, stabbings, chokings, beatings — the same way they already handle outright obscenity and profanity: by keeping it off the air.

And she's telling the networks, cable TV and the independents alike, that they've promised voluntary reform "over and over and over again," and failed to act, and now must face the music.

"The regulation of violence," says the attorney general, "is con-

stitutionally permissible."

There's a big legal doubt about that, given current case law. But who's to say a ban against violent entertainment couldn't pass constitutional muster in view of 30 years of psychological studies showing strong, clear links between brutal acts on television, and violence on our streets?

The entertainment industry can claim there are lots of other reasons young people act violently. They may have been exposed to crack while they were in the uterus, to malnutrition, to physical or sexual abuse, or both. They may have grown up in houses where there's lead in the paint, in neighborhoods where bullets fly, in schools where drug dealers roam school hallways.

But it's also true that television and movies saturate young people's lives with aggression and killings. The filmmakers are convinced violence is what sells; advertisers believe the same; and both purvey this material simply to make money.

The American Psychological Association reports that by seventh grade the average child has seen 7,000 murders and 100,000 acts of violence on television. When America's streets are then awash in rising tides of violent crime, most

of it committed by teenagers, a trend unique among advanced nations, the entertainers' assertion of innocence rings hollow indeed.

As Senator Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.) commented to uneasy entertainment moguls as they sought to rebut Reno before the Senate Commerce Committee: "You're sounding like someone who sells cigarettes."

The best resolution, of course, would be voluntary industry compliance. With Reno's warning, coming after a 60-day deadline for reform that Senator Paul Simon (D-Ill.) laid down in August, there may be some hope.

But not, I'd guess, without constant prodding. Everett Koop and other surgeon generals didn't get us off the smoking kick with one-time warnings: They make crusades out of their efforts.

And MADD — Mothers Against Drunk Driving — didn't transform that old phrase, "one for the road," from a genial excuse for a last drink to an almost murderous act without years of public agitation.

Public campaigns of condemnation can work. Take a look at the miserable bunches of smokers huddled around office building doors, banished from their offices

whenever they want to take that puff of a cigarette that in another era Hollywood films depicted as the wonderfully suave thing to do.

It will be tougher to stamp out film and TV violence. The violent shows are quick and easy and cheap to make. And up to now the profits have been humongous. Talk of limits raises First Amendment issues, and draws lots of hot criticism. *The New York Times* quickly accused Reno of "dangerous embrace of a very seductive form of censorship."

Yet Reno is right: The entertainers will stall forever without threats. And it is quite reasonable to assume that thousands of murders, beatings, assaults in this nation would not have taken place if young people's minds had not been shaped and misshaped by the murderous violence which Hollywood has drummed into their consciences from infancy on.

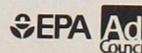
At the hearings last week, Senator Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.) mousetrapped CBS President Howard Stringer by playing a videotape of an ugly barroom brawl from Monday night's episode of CBS's "Love and War" program — right after Stringer had boasted that

his network's schedule had the least violence of the last 25 years.

The entertainment crowd needs to be on notice that wherever it goes, people will be ready to hold them accountable. And with the high respect she's already won from the American people, Janet Reno may be just the right lady to administer the medicine.

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## Job market

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR—MCHENRY COUNTY, ILL.:** McHenry County (184,300, 1990 census) is part of the Chicago Metro Area. ICMA recognized in 1992. Twenty-four member County Board; \$62 million budget; 750 employees. Fastest growing County in Illinois. Position requires master's degree in public administration or similar discipline. At least five years upper level management experience in similar position. Special emphasis on budgeting, finance, and state legislative practices. Responsible for exercising direction over all appointed departments in accordance with the McHenry County Administrator Ordinance and with County Board policies. Salary DOQ plus benefits.

Send resume and 5 work related references, by January 3, 1994 to: Search Committee, c/o Roy Witherow, McHenry County Government Center, 2200 No. Seminary Av., Woodstock, IL 60098. Equal Opportunity Employer M/F.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR — MID-VALLEY MANPOWER CONSORTIUM, EL MONTE, CALIF.:** Salary is negotiable. Mid-Valley is a Prime Agent of the Los Angeles County Private Industry Council and receives approx. \$3.5 million in JTPA funds annually to provide job training services in 4 cities and adjacent areas. Mid-Valley also has non-JTPA programs budgeted at approx. \$500,000

annually. Responsibilities include general management, carrying out Board policies and directives, accomplishing the agency's goals and objectives, and managing its programs and resources, including 18 FT JTPA employees as well as PT and casual non-JTPA employees. Optimum qualifications include a Bachelor's degree in Public or Business Administration, Human Resources Management, or a related field, 5 years' successful professional employment in local government, human service, job training or related agency, public or private, with at least 2 years in middle or upper management. Spanish fluency and a strong financial management background are highly desirable. Resumes accepted until December 30, 1993. For further information, contact Michael Colantuono, 333 S. Hope St., 38th Fl., Los Angeles, CA 90071; (213) 626-8484. EOE/AA.

**LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS DIRECTOR — NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES:** The National Association of Counties (NACo) has an opening for a Legislative Affairs Director. The incumbent is responsible for directing the activities of the Legislative Affairs Department to include: policy analysis, development, and implementation; lobbying, coalition building and media outreach, technical assistance to steering committees in a broad range of policy and program areas; and consultation and advice to the Executive Director for various program and administrative issues. Qualifications: bachelor's degree plus ten years of progressively responsible work experience. A master's degree can substitute for two years of work experience; must have proven financial, human resources, and program management abilities; must be innovative, self-motivated, creative and a team player; must possess the interpersonal skills necessary to coordinate, manage, and supervise professional and support staff; must have a proven track record in establishing networks, negotiating, persuading, building consensus, and providing leadership; must understand the federal and local government policy processes and

be able to evaluate the political, economic, historical and intergovernmental context of policy; sensitivity and tact in dealing with others; strong written and oral communications skills; and familiarity with computers is desirable. Salary is set using the HAY method of job evaluation. Minimum annual salary for the position is \$81,012. Interested and qualified applicants should submit a cover letter and resume by January 1, 1994 to: HR Manager-LD, NACo, 440 First St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001. No phone calls please. NACo is an equal opportunity employer, offers competitive benefits and a smoke-free work environment.

**SOLID WASTE/LANDFILL DESIGN/AND MANAGEMENT — ST. CLAIR COUNTY, MICH.:** St. Clair County, Michigan is seeking a civil engineer to direct the day-to-day operations and construction of its 267+ acre Type II Sanitary Landfill, located in Smiths Creek, Michigan. Projects will include: landfill management, preparing construction plans, specifications design work and written reports. Involves work in solid waste, environmental/geotechnical engineering, infrastructure design and repair, groundwater monitoring and hydrogeological projects. The proven ability to work with both local government, citizens and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, is essential. Candidate must have a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. Master in civil or geotechnical or environmental engineering preferred. Minimum of four years of broad solid waste experience in operation and construction of Sanitary Landfills, P.E. registration in Michigan. Salary: \$41,535-\$50,550. Deadline for applications: 4:00 P.M. Friday, January 14, 1994. Send Resume to: Donald E. Dodge, Administrator/Controller, Room 103 County Building, 201 McMoran Boulevard, Port Huron, MI 48060.

**VICE PRESIDENT — MAJOR SUBSIDIARY OF FORTUNE 150 CORPORATION:** Salary negotiable DOQ, including eligibility for incentive compensation, excellent fringe benefit program and excellent relocation package. New position reporting to President and Chief Operating Officer to develop and head-up a start-up business unit. Responsible for organiza-

tion, staffing, marketing and development of state and local government privatization market nationwide. Requires Bachelor's degree in business or public administration, economics, engineering or related field. Master's degree in business or public administration preferred. Experience in county, state or municipal government in operations, planning or general management necessary. Private sector experience a plus. Must possess a vision and strategic orientation; energetic and enthusiastic; outstanding communication, organizational, managerial and administrative skills; passionate believer in privatization; a leader and a team player; and have the ability to contribute to the company's strategic plan and defend their portion of it. Direct reports may possibly include some administrative and marketing staff. Send resume in confidence to James L. Mercer, President, The Mercer Group, Inc., 990 Hammond Drive, Suite 510, Atlanta, Georgia 30328. EOE/EOR.

### City of Buffalo

Mayor-Elect Anthony M. Masiello is looking for the best and brightest candidates for these and other positions:

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- Chief Fiscal Officer
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- Commissioner of Neighborhoods
- Commissioner of Econ. Development
- Commissioner of Human Services

Send résumés and cover letters as soon as possible to:

**The Masiello Transition Team**  
638 Parkside Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14216



Deschutes County, one of the West's premier resort counties, is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Community Development Director. The department serves the development community of the fastest growing county in the state with an extremely high level of efficiency. The department has 53 FTEs and an annual operating budget of just under \$3 billion. The position is responsible for delivering planning, building safety, environmental health, code enforcement and related services to the community.

### Deschutes County, Oregon Community Development Director

(Salary: \$4,344-5,945/month)

Deschutes County boasts the largest ski resort in the Northwest and a growing golf and resort industry. Bridging the eastern slopes of the Cascades and the western edge of the Great Basin's high desert country, Deschutes County has abundant scenic beauty and recreational opportunities. It is located 140 miles southeast of Portland, and is the largest population center in the Eastern region of the state.

Qualified candidates will possess a bachelor's degree with major coursework in public administration, planning, building safety, and/or environmental health; at least five years of progressively responsible administrative and/or managerial work associated with community development department functions, including land use, transportation planning, zoning administration, building safety, and environmental health; or any satisfactory equivalent combination of experience and training. Excellent communications and public relations skills are required.

Please submit County application, resume, and cover letter, post-marked no later than Monday, December 13, 1993. Apply to: Deschutes County Office of Personnel, 1130 NW Harriman, Bend, OR 97701. (503) 388-6553, FAX (503) 388-4752.

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## Notices . . . notices . . . notices

### CONFERENCES

■ **The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)** will be holding several seminars on government financial management, Dec. 6-10 in San Antonio, Texas: "Internal Audit for Governments," Dec. 6-7; "Planning and Sale of Municipal Bonds," Dec. 6-7; "Introductory Public Employee Retirement Administration," Dec. 6-7; and "Advanced Governmental Accounting," Dec. 8-10.

For more information, contact Monica Slora, GFOA Educational Services Center, 180 North Michigan Ave., Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60601, 312/977-9700.

■ San Francisco will host more than 3,000 planners during the **American Planning Association's (APA) National Planning Conference**, April 16-20, 1994.

With the theme, "Regions and Cities: Merged Destinies," participants will explore ways governments can work together on issues such as affordable housing, pollution and transportation.

For more information, contact APA at 1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036, 202/872-0611.

■ "Economic Security in an Aging Society—Building on the Experience of Mature Workers" is the theme for the **National Association of State Units on Aging's (NASUA) 9th Annual Older Worker Conference**, April 25-27 in Washington, D.C.

The conference will focus on building a consensus on the future of older worker employment/training programs, shaping the public policy agenda and enhancing programs that serve older workers.

For more information, contact NASUA, 1225 I St., N.W., Suite 725, Washington, DC 20005.

### PUBLICATIONS

■ **The Census Bureau** has released a new guide to statistics on population, retail trade, foreign trade and more, "Census Catalog Guide: 1993." The catalog can help you learn what is available, choose the right products and obtain assistance and training. The cost is \$21.

To order, write to Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7950. (Order #: 003-024-08690-5)

■ "Rural Conservation" is a new information booklet by Shelley Mastran, published by the **National Trust for Historic Preservation**.

Part of the "Information" series, the booklet provides an introduction to steps, tools and sources of information for achieving rural conservation.

The "Information" series publications cost \$5 per booklet; \$2.50 for 10 or more, with \$5 for postage; and \$125 for a complete set of 54 "Information" titles Order from Information Series, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036, 202/673-4289.

■ **Education • Training • Research (ETR) Associates** offers more than 500 health education publications to educators and public health professionals, featuring both traditional and non-traditional curricula, professional and "how-to" style books, along with videos and pamphlets.

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