

control over such purely local matters as zoning and land use regulations. Further, the definition of what constitutes an eligible metro area would be left to your determination, as I understand it. In my opinion it represents the most far-reaching legislation to come before the Congress in over 30 years. Could you supply for the record the number of communities, if any, in the United States that have voluntarily relinquished such powers to regional governments to this date?

Secretary WEAVER. I would be happy to. But I want to point out that I don't think that the law requires what you have said. I think the law requires that groups get together and mutually and voluntarily agree on these things, and not subordinate localities to any metropolitan government. As a matter of fact, this law does not contemplate the establishment of metropolitan government, it contemplates the cooperation of the elements within a metropolitan region to get a metropolitan approach.

(The information referred to follows:)

We have found two instances where municipal governmental functions have been assumed by a larger governmental entity. This has occurred in Dade County, Fla., and in the Nashville-Davidson area of Tennessee. In both these cases, it appears that the respective State legislatures specifically authorized this merger of governmental functions.

The proposed program of grants to assist in planned metropolitan development does not, of course, in any way require that municipalities abrogate their governmental functions as a condition of assistance. The law does not contemplate the establishment of metropolitan governments but rather the cooperation of local governments within a metropolitan area in order to develop a metropolitan approach to mutual problems.

Additionally, there is growing evidence that the importance of the broad metropolitan approach to planning is receiving general recognition on the State and local level. For example, most of our States already have laws which in varying degrees authorize regional or metropolitan planning by regional, metropolitan, or county planning bodies or through a State planning agency.

Mr. WIDNALL. If you will have to qualify this, of course, they have got to enter into a metropolitan agreement.

Secretary WEAVER. They have to enter into an agreement within the metropolitan area, yes. But they would not have to establish a metropolitan government, nor is this contemplated, nor do I think is it even suggested in the statute. It certainly is not suggested in my mind.

Mr. WIDNALL. On page 4 of the bill—

Secretary WEAVER. And it could be an informal arrangement. It would not necessarily have to be a governmental organization of a new type.

Mr. WIDNALL. I would like to read from section 102 of the bill on page 4:

Where the applicant for a grant under this title is a county, municipality, or other general purpose unit of local government, it must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Secretary that, taking into consideration the scope of its authority and responsibilities, it is adequately assuring that public facility projects and other land development or uses of public metropolitanwide or interjurisdictional significance are being and will be carried out in accordance with metropolitan planning and programing meeting the requirements of subsection (b). In making this determination the Secretary will give special consideration to whether the applicant is effectively assisting in and conforming to metropolitan planning or programing through (1) the location and scheduling of public facility projects, whether or not federally assisted; and (2) the establishment and consistent administration of zoning codes, subdivision regulations, and similar land use and density control.