

A county could experiment legally by going part of the distance toward an executive head with an urban adviser. If it doesn't work the position can easily be abolished.

In any event, we suspect it is worth a try. We believe it will work.

Mr. McDONALD. Mr. Hillenbrand pointed out that for the last 3 years, NACO has urged that every county, urban and rural, establish a new position of county adviser to have the following duties:

1. Under the supervision of the county board, and in cooperation with other county agencies he would make studies, surveys, and reports with recommendations on urban problems such as water supply and sewage, parks and recreation, refuse disposal, air pollution, industrial, and economic development, civil defense, police and fire protection, and traffic control.

2. Under the supervision of the county board, and in cooperation with other county agencies, he would help to coordinate the work of all county governmental agencies and private business in bringing a unified approach to the solution of urban problems.

3. He would be responsible for creating genuine cooperation on urban matters between the county and its component municipalities and other county subdivisions.

4. He would, in cooperation with the State association of county officials, universities, and other public and private associations and institutions, make available the latest information on new developments in urban matters.

5. As adviser to the county board, he would serve as principal point of contact between the county and the State on all urban matters involving State financial aid, technical assistance, or other assistance.

6. As adviser to the board, he would be a source of information on Federal, financial, and technical urban assistance to local governments, individuals, and businesses.

You will note that items 4, 5, and 6 are the type of activity provided for by "Grants for urban information centers." Since January 1 of this year, approximately 100 of our counties have established a position comparable to the one suggested in Mr. Hillenbrand's editorial. We appreciate the activities proposed for the county and urban adviser exceed those provided for by title IV of this bill, however, we would request that at least that portion of our county urban adviser's program, conforming to title IV be eligible for assistance under this bill. We feel that language in the committee's report could accomplish this. We would further suggest that assistance under title IV also be made available to counties in excess of 50,000 population which are not a part of the standard metropolitan statistical areas. Counties which are SMSA in and of themselves, would, of course, qualify under the present provisions of the bill. Other areas of the country should receive comparable assistance as a part of the community development districts. We do have one reservation with respect to the county urban adviser. Due to the importance of his position and the unique relationship he will have with the governing body of the county, it should be abundantly clear that he is strictly a county government employee and in no way a State or Federal official.