

REORGANIZATION PLAN NO. 2 OF 1968

(Urban Mass Transportation)

MONDAY, APRIL 22, 1968

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE
REORGANIZATION SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met at 10 a.m. in room 2247, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. John A. Blatnik (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Representatives John A. Blatnik, Henry S. Reuss, Benjamin S. Rosenthal, John N. Erlenborn, and Jack Edwards.

Also present: Elmer W. Henderson, subcommittee counsel; James A. Lanigan, general counsel, Committee on Government Operations; and William H. Copenhaver, minority professional staff.

Mr. BLATNIK. The Subcommittee on Executive and Legislative Reorganization will please come to order.

We have hearings this morning to inform the subcommittee on the purposes and effects of President Johnson's Reorganization Plan No. 2 submitted to the Congress on February 26 and now pending for our consideration. Under the terms of the Reorganization Act of 1949, the plan will go into effect after 60 days unless a resolution of disapproval has been passed by either the House or the Senate. Thus far, no such resolution has been introduced. Allowing for the 10-day recess just concluded, plan No. 2 will become law on May 7. However, the plan itself contains a provision that it will not become operative until the close of June 30—apparently to allow time to make the necessary adjustments.

In essence, the plan will transfer the urban mass transit program from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Department of Transportation. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development will, however, continue to make grants and undertake projects in areas where urban mass transportation is related to comprehensively planned urban development. The plan establishes an Urban Mass Transportation Administration to be headed by an administrator at Level III of the Executive Pay Schedule who will report directly to the Secretary of Transportation.

Members of the subcommittee will recall that during the process of legislatively creating the Department of Transportation, the President asked at that time that a decision on the location of the urban mass transportation program be deferred for a year, during which period the two Secretaries of the Departments of Transportation and