

we believe that it is properly within the province of the Federal agency administering a grant program to give such advice to potential applicants for grants.

TITLE IV

Title IV would establish a coordinated intergovernmental urban assistance policy. It would require the President to establish Government-wide rules and regulations for use in formulating, evaluating, and reviewing, in the light of specific objectives listed in the bill, "urban development programs and projects for the provision of federally aided urban facilities, and Federal projects having a significant impact on the development of urban and urbanizing communities." In making loans or grants-in-aid for urban development, Federal agencies would be required, in the absence of substantial reasons to the contrary, to make the loan or grant to a unit of general local government rather than to a special-purpose unit of local government.

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare endorses the purposes of title IV and the guiding principles as stated in section 401. Within the Department, we have made specific organizational changes to improve our ability to work effectively with other Departments on urban problems.

Early in 1967, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare established the Center for Community Planning for the purpose of providing an urban focus for the Department and developing responsiveness to the needs of the city. The Center coordinates Departmental activity in connection with the Model Cities, Neighborhood Services Program, Parent Child Centers, the Youth Opportunity Campaign and other urban programs. It has built a "Technical Assistance Network" utilizing local Social Security District office managers and other Department personnel, through which requests for information and assistance in connection with urban problems may be routed rapidly to that point—the State, the Region or the appropriate agency in Washington—where the most effective help can be given.

One of the Center's major tasks is to develop new and more flexible mechanisms of funding comprehensive urban programs such as the Model Cities. It has developed and is operating a system for prompt interagency evaluation of multi-purpose projects involving this Department and other Departments. The Center represents the Department on interdepartmental task forces and committees concerned with urban programs and with semi-public associations such as the Conference of Mayors and the National League of Cities.

The Center is currently working with the Council of State Governments and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to develop policy for the Federal Departments in working with the States in the Model Cities and other urban programs, and to advise the States of the role they should be playing in this effort. The Center is also chairing an interdepartmental task force attempting to develop information materials aimed at inner city residents to make known the objectives of the Model Cities program and the services available through it and other urban facilities.

While section 401 requires the President to establish rules and regulations to implement its objectives, section 403 would somewhat inconsistently vest the authority for prescribing rules and regulations for effective administration of title IV (which includes only one additional section besides sections 401 and 403) in the Budget Bureau or such other agency as may be designated by the President.

TITLE V

Title V would attempt to strengthen Congressional review of Federal grant-in-aid programs by limiting to five years the duration of any grant-in-aid program which is authorized by the ninety-first or any subsequent Congress and which is given no expiration date (section 502), and by requiring the appropriate Congressional committees to review prior to its expiration date any grant-in-aid program authorized for three or more years (section 503). In addition, the Comptroller General would be directed to make continuing studies of all grant-in-aid programs (section 504), and the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations would be required, upon the request of an appropriate Congressional committee, to conduct studies of the intergovernmental relations aspects of programs and to report findings and recommendations to such committee (section 505). Section 506 would require recipients of future grants (including those made pursuant to extension, modification, or alteration of existing agreements) to keep certain types of records, such as records disclosing