

In conclusion, I feel that S. 698 is a far-sighted proposal. It recognizes that our system of cooperative federalism is strengthened by strong governments at every level. It properly acknowledges that the Federal grants-in-aid devices underlie most functional and operating intergovernmental relationships. Since this area is currently undergoing rapid evolution in both form and focus, it is today more essential than ever before that our partnership system work at its greatest potential efficiency. The Intergovernmental Cooperation Act represents a significant step toward harmonizing and improving important aspects of Federal-State-local relations. The National Governors' Conference welcomes this measure, but it sincerely hopes that it will be but the first of a series of needed proposals designed to keep our continually evolving Federal system viable.

Senator MUSKIE. Thank you very much, Mr. Gibbens. I have three questions that I would like to put, perhaps to Mr. Hill, for the purpose of getting information into the record.

First of all, could the Governors' Conference provide for the record of this hearing the degree to which the States are reorganizing their executive departments and strengthening the role of the Governor over his budgeting, planning, and programing so as to take advantage of the many sections proposed in S. 698?

Mr. HILL. Yes; we will be glad to do that. The Governors' Committee on Constitutional Revision last year developed an appendix or summary of reorganization developments in the States over the period from 1963 to 1967 on a State-by-State basis. We shall be glad to furnish that for the record.

Senator MUSKIE. Is it your impression that there is movement following in this field?

Mr. HILL. Yes, very active movement in the area.

Senator MUSKIE. The staff study for the Committee on State-Urban Relations recommended the creation of State relocation agencies to coordinate relocation assistance and minimize problems.

How many States are doing this? Can you supply that for the record?

Mr. HILL. Yes. I know that Connecticut has a law in effect and there are a few other States moving in this direction, and we shall be glad to update and furnish that for the record.

Senator MUSKIE. Would you also indicate how such agencies are financed?

Mr. HILL. Yes, I will. I think the best thing to do would be to furnish a copy of the Connecticut law and those of other States that have laws on the books.

Senator MUSKIE. Would it be a good idea for States to assist the creation of local relocation agencies to coordinate local assistance on projects where urban renewal, highways, and other programs are involved at the same time?

I think some States have done this, but to what extent do you think that sort of thing ought to be encouraged and stimulated?

Mr. HILL. It would be very difficult to answer that. I know some States have moved in this area, but I am aware that there are State laws that would prohibit or encumber such activities. But there has been some activity in that area of providing for coordination of relocation assistance and other assistance.