

concern is that these programs are administered efficiently and that the congressional intent is fulfilled. The Executive should be expected to consolidate and simplify wherever possible to assure greatest effectiveness of the programs. Granting the Executive this power in the manner enumerated by these bills does not remove legislation prerogatives.

Dwelling a moment on the subject of coordination, we feel this most necessary of executive responsibilities is given too little direct attention. It is implied strongly and spoken to in title IV of S. 698, and I would certainly agree that consolidation and simplification connote greater coordination. Nevertheless, this remains one of the greatest needs in the administration of the grants-in-aid.

One of the prime objectives of the model cities program is to help bring about local coordination of Federal resources available and to provide a definite mechanism for this coordination. Yet, from the 75 cities already involved in model cities planning, including my own, we are finding definite evidence that the achievement of this goal may be in serious doubt. If we are experiencing this sort of difficulty in a program specifically intended to achieve greater coordination of Federal resources, I need not dwell on the grim problems faced in coordination of the over 400 separate grant programs. We must learn from the experiences being gained in model cities and apply them elsewhere. Of course, the main lesson to be learned is that we must have an effective, responsive, flexible system such as S. 698 and the other bills will help obtain.

We therefore feel the President must clearly be given the responsibility as well as all the tools necessary to vigorously pursue achievement of greater interagency coordination in the case of all grant programs.

Urban development fund: Ultimately, however, grant consolidation and greater coordination cannot alone achieve a workable solution to the massive physical, social, and economic problems confronting cities. The need for adequate available resources to attack such problems becomes more critical each day. We, therefore, urge that Congress establish an urban development fund to represent its massive commitment to fulfilling the national responsibility in urban and social renewal than is now available through the present categorical grant-in-aid system.

Under the urban development fund concept, a city, upon completion of a comprehensive plan utilizing a number of categorical aids assembled in a fashion similar to a model cities plan, would be authorized to secure certification of technical compliance with the requirements of the several Federal programs included in the plan, including the approval of State agencies where required. The city would then waive its rights to the specific categorical aid funds and enter into an agreement with the Federal urban development fund for the release of equivalent moneys to implement its plan over the period of years specified in its budget.

Funding would be provided by an appropriation to the fund yearly to maintain a reasonable level of payments. The Federal outlay would be expected to be consistent with the amount paid out under the categorical aids so that eventually the appropriations to categorical aids might be reduced. The important factor here is that the fund must be