

I want to concentrate my remarks this morning on the two new provisions in S. 698—title VI, consolidation of grants-in-aid, title IX, uniform land acquisition; and to Senate bill 2981. In addition, I will stress the importance of title VIII, uniform relocation assistance. I will be glad to discuss other provisions of the bill during the question period.

This provision is a must as far as I am concerned. Senator Muskie, your statement introducing S. 698 makes this abundantly clear. The number of Federal grant programs to State and local government is in the hundreds. Each program was developed to meet specific needs of State and local government, but naturally such programs enacted at different times now cause duplications, confusion, and make planning by local government most difficult.

The problems at the local level become one of trying to couple together specific programs in an area. Often this "coupling" cannot effectively be done, or if it can, it takes an unusually long period of time to mesh all requirements of each specific program involved.

On February 6, 1967, Graham Watt, city manager of Dayton, Ohio, testified before your committee on creative federalism. At that time as part of his testimony, he submitted a survey of city managers done by the International City Managers' Association on the problems of Federal-local administrative problems.

This survey shows that city managers would support this title because it would enable them to do a better job of planning and implementing programs involving Federal grants. More important, the programs themselves could be more effective because the coupling of similar programs would have already largely been done.

The ICMA survey stated:

The multiplicity of programs makes it extremely difficult to place one program in context with others, and it is equally difficult to determine among four or five programs, which one is most appropriate for the city.

City managers expressed the idea that programs would be more effective if aimed at community activities instead of specific projects. At present, local programs are often shaped by Federal requirements, rather than the particular community needs.

Saginaw is indeed fortunate for it is able to afford a young man with a master's in public administration that works virtually full time on Federal aid programs. He feels that of the 128 direct Federal aid city programs, he is able to be knowledgeable about 15 to 20 of these programs. Thus, it is most difficult for us to know what programs might be helpful and, as important, if funds are available.

I cannot help but think, parenthetically, of the smaller cities who are not able to afford this luxury of a man well trained and able to specialize in this type of thing, entirely on Federal programs, and we do consider it a luxury.

Senate 2981, Joint Funding Simplification:

The Joint Funding Simplification Act is a supplement to the Consolidation of Grants. This act is important because where consolidation is not feasible, it provides a means to provide coordination of related programs. More important, it allows the administrators of various related programs to remove inconsistencies as spelled out in section 6. It appears to allow the city to make one contact point—not several.