

**TESTIMONY OF HAROLD F. WISE, LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN,
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PLANNERS**

Mr. WISE. Thank you, Senator. I have a very brief statement here. Members of the committee, my name is Harold F. Wise. I am legislative chairman of the American Institute of Planners, the professional planning organization which now numbers some 5,000 members who are actively engaged in the professional practice of planning in the cities, counties, regions, and States of this country.

I am here on behalf of the institute to most enthusiastically support the principal measure before you: the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1967.

This is essential, creative, and basic legislation which seeks to knit together and make more meaningful the Federal Government's participation in intergovernmental affairs and in the continued development of the urban areas of this country.

Title II of the bill, dealing with improved administration of Federal grants-in-aid to the States, is a very simple, straightforward, and greatly needed additional tool to improve the administration of State government.

Two years ago my office engaged in a study with the Director of the Budget and the Office of State Planning in the State of Georgia. We found that in 1966, outside of the university system, there were some 200 Federal grant-in-aid programs being used by the State of Georgia which brought \$300 million into the State that year.

One of the more interesting findings that we made in that study was that approximately 82 of the grant programs required some kind of a comprehensive plan or multiyear programming as a condition to the receipt of the funds. The great magnitude of the coordinative job necessary there I'm sure you can appreciate from the fact that we found that no single filing cabinet in the State capitol or in the State office building contained more than one of these plans and yet in all cases the plans sent to the Federal Government expressed to Federal agencies the policy of the State.

Subsequent to this study the legislature did adopt new State planning legislation and reviews of Federal grant applications by the planning agencies in the Governor's office is now a matter of law and policy.

Title II would vastly improve the flow of information from the Federal Establishment to the Governors' offices and in that regard help to underpin the planning efforts of the Governors of the various States. I am not unmindful of the flow of information to the legislature as well as to the Governor's office as being equally important.

Title III is a sound proposal in this period of growing complexity in our governmental programs and a general shortage of trained manpower. Specialists working with the Federal Government should be available on an as-needed basis to State and local units of government.

We fully endorse the provisions of title IV and believe that it would be a great step forward should this language become law. It establishes a Federal policy for sound and orderly development of urban communities and permits the President to establish rules and