

Progress: According to NCHA, "An adjustment of statutory cost limits on a per room basis would require a change in the U.S. Housing Act. Housing Assistance Administration has been informed of NCHA's difficulty in building within administrative cost limits, especially for larger units. For several years we have urged that such limits be increased."

Recommendation 7: Give families sufficient advance notice of available units.

Progress: Families continue to complain of the short notice of available units, and security deposits and one month's advance rent. There seems to be an assumption that the prospective tenant should have money saved for the security deposit and advance rent. Although Housing Authority procedures allow families five days to notify the manager if they want a location, some are told they must decide during their first visit to a property office.

SHELBY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
Memphis, Tenn., May 30, 1967.

Senator HOWARD H. BAKER, Jr.,
Old Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: Thank you for forwarding to me copies of Senate Bills 698, 735 and 799.

The bills have been reviewed by Mr. Jerrold Moore, Director of Planning of the Memphis and Shelby County Planning Commission; Mr. William H. Williams, Shelby County Attorney; and myself. We have reached the following conclusions:

1. That Senate Bills 799 and 735 should be defeated.
2. Senate Bill 698 should be supported if the following modifications are incorporated:

A. Page 13, section 302, lines 2 through 10, be amended to read as follows: "The Secretary of any department or the administrative head of any agency of the Executive Branch of the Federal Government is authorized, upon written request from a State or political subdivision thereof to provide specialized or technical services to the department or agency by the unit of Government making the request".

B. Section 303 should be stricken in its entirety.

C. Section 401 could be interpreted to mean that rules and regulations are to be established which would be concerned with the *content* of local planning and programming efforts. We strenuously object to some "paper-shuffler" in a regional office or in Washington passing on the adequacy or competence of our work. If, on the other hand, this Section may mean a standardization of review criteria among the several grant-in-aid programs, we would favor it.

Section 401 "B" should be changed to establish a mandatory review by a voluntary advisory committee, consisting in part of officials representing National, Regional, State and Local viewpoints, appointed by the President or Directors of Administering Agencies, to establish rules and regulations pertaining to eligibility for grant-in-aid assistance. (As written, section 401 "B" does not make National, State and local review absolutely necessary.)

D. Section 602(b) should read as follows: "Each grant consolidation plan shall provide for only one consolidation of individual grant programs, and shall be subject to review by a voluntary advisory committee as established in Paragraph C of this letter."

E. There was a difference of opinion on Section 803(c)(2). Mr. Moore felt this was a responsibility of county government. Mr. Williams felt this should not be a responsibility of county governments. I felt this responsibility should be shared by the principals contributing to the program causing the displacement.

The need for a firmly developed program of grant-in-aid coordination and more local participation in establishing grantee guidelines is paramount to closer Local and Federal intergovernmental cooperation.

I am grateful to you for forwarding these bills for my comments, and would appreciate your bringing the above to the attention of the Senate Committee on Government Operations. If additional correspondence with other Committee members would be helpful, please let me know.

Sincerely,

CLIFFORD L. TUCK,
Director, Shelby County Department of Coordination.