

THE JOB AHEAD

Most recommendations in the water and sewer area have been implemented. Hence, the job ahead will focus on:

Comparing actual and projected results.

Studying the execution phase of each department's program.

Improving the coordination activities of the Interagency Coordinating Committee.

TABLE IV.—SUMMARY OF PROCESSING TIME REDUCTIONS, WATER AND SEWER

Program	Original processing times (workdays)	New processing times (workdays)	Time savings	
			Workdays	Percent
Commerce: Specified economic development areas.....	245	115	130	53
Agriculture: Rurally oriented communities.....	245	118	127	52
Interior: Waste treatment projects.....	25	25	0	0
HUD: Communities in urban or urbanizing areas.....	232	66	166	72
Total.....	747	324	423	57

STATEMENT OF U.S. REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM F. RYAN, FROM THE 20TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to state my views before the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations on S. 698.

This legislation is sorely needed, and I applaud your work in this long neglected area. I am specifically interested in title VIII, which establishes a uniform relocation policy. I have been concerned with inequities in the area of relocation for some years. As you well know, although some Federal programs do require relocation assistance, most either do not, or leave assistance to the discretion of the grantee or to the administrator.

I know that in New York City families displaced as a result of urban renewal acquisition are eligible for relocation assistance, but those dislocated as a result of direct Federal construction or institutional expansion by universities or hospitals facilitated through Federal grants or loans often receive no such benefits.

In past years, I have introduced legislation increasing urban renewal benefits, and other legislation requiring benefits to be paid by recipients of other specific grant-in-aid or loan programs. This year, I introduced H.R. 16953, the Relocation Assistance Act. It extends such requirements to all Federal grant-in-aid, direct loan, or acquisition construction.

As I understand the Chairman's bill, S. 698, my bill differs mainly in that my bill H.R. 16953 would establish a central relocation agency, to be located in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, whereas S. 698 requires each agency to take appropriate action.

My bill provides that no Federal agency shall approve an application for loan or grant assistance, nor undertake direct construction without first identifying persons to be relocated, informing them of their rights, and providing the Director of Relocation Assistance with information sufficient to permit the computation of relocation benefits.

H.R. 16953 charges the Director of Relocation Assistance to make payments of benefits, and to keep a current file on all federally assisted programs covered by the act and the need for relocation assistance. It also requires that he take action to insure that individuals and businessmen displaced as a result of federally aided programs be fully informed of their rights and given assistance in relocation. He is further required to coordinate his activities with other Federal agencies. Payments would be made through annual appropriations.

I am certainly in accord with the intent of S. 698, and I commend the Chairman. I would hope that the distinguished subcommittee would give due consideration to the approach which establishes a central Relocation Assistance Bureau rather than leaving this function in each administering agency.

There is a clear need for general coordination of relocation measures, including keeping statistics, providing information, and ensuring that agencies are complying with the policy.

I include a copy of my bill, H.R. 16953.

I am hopeful that uniform relocation legislation will meet with prompt and favorable action.