

From the Office of
Senator Hubert H. Humphrey
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SENATOR HUMPHREY SPEAKS ON 'GOOD GOVERNMENT' TO ANOKA KIWANIS CLUB

American government is not "just in Washington", Senator Hubert H. Humphrey reminded the Anoka Kiwanis Club in an address at noon today.

"Most of it is at the community, county, and state level," he declared, adding that good government requires vigilance at every level.

"Our government is one of interrelationships, of cooperative efforts, and yet it also is one where there are distinct national powers and separate and distinct state and local powers. It is one of the most intricate government mechanisms in the world, and yet we have made it work to the benefit of the American people, where we enjoy political stability and economic progress," Senator Humphrey said.

Senator Humphrey discussed the work of the President's Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, of which he was a member, describing its report as "one of the first complete studies of its kind to be made of the practical operation of our federal system, recognizing the relationships between every level of government."

Among the Commission's recommendations which he outlined was a proposal for establishing a broad system of federal payments in lieu of property taxes to state and local governments, when federal ownership has taken property off the local taxrolls, for which Senator Humphrey has introduced legislation in the Senate with Republican Senator Kuchel, former California State Comptroller, as his co-sponsor.

"Everyone has a continuing responsibility of seeing that we get the most good out of every tax dollar collected at any level of government," he said. "But that means more than just 'cutting budgets'. It means improving government organization and structure, eliminating duplication and waste without sacrifice of public service, and seeking to attract and keep competent and qualified people in all levels of government work."

Senator Humphrey said his service as Mayor of Minneapolis, prior to becoming United States Senator, had been of great benefit in enabling him to have a better understanding of the interrelationship of local and national government programs and problems.



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