

July 26, 1971  
Detroit, Mich.

SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

DEMOCRATIC POLICY COUNCIL STATEMENT

201 - 1468

THE DEMOCRATIC POLICY COUNCIL MEETS TODAY TO HOLD  
HEARINGS ON THE PROBLEMS OF THE CITIES. IT MEET TO LISTEN  
AND TO LEARN. AND, IT MEETS TO PROPOSE PROGRAMS AND  
POLICIES THAT WILL MAKE LIFE IN OUR CITIES MORE HUMANE  
AND MORE WORTH LIVING.

L BUT ANY PROGRAMS WE PROPOSE WILL FAIL UNLESS WE  
HAVE A HEALTHY, BOOMING ECONOMY.

L THIS ECONOMY IS FLOUNDERING BADLY, AND WE ALL KNOW  
IT.

L IT DOES NOT PRODUCE GROWTH, IT PRODUCES INFLATION.

L IT DOES NOT PRODUCE JOBS, IT PRODUCES UNEMPLOYMENT.

HERE IN DETROIT, THERE ARE 111,500 PEOPLE UNEMPLOYED,  
OR MORE THAN 16.5 PERCENT OF THE WORK FORCE. YOUTH  
UNEMPLOYMENT IN DETROIT IS 40 PERCENT.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG DETROIT'S VETERANS IS MORE THAN  
23,000, AND THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT THIS FIGURE WILL  
GO DOWN SOON.

IT IS EVEN MORE DISHEARTENING TO HEAR THAT THE CITY  
OF DETROIT HAS AN ESTIMATED DEFICIT OF \$26 MILLION AND  
THE SCHOOL BOARD HAS A DEFICIT OF BETWEEN \$20 AND \$30  
MILLION.

WHAT DO WE DO WHEN PEOPLE CANNOT PAY TAXES AND  
SUPPORT CITY SERVICES BECAUSE THEY CANNOT FIND JOBS?

WHAT DO WE DO WHEN A MANUFACTURER SAYS HE IS GOING  
TO MOVE OUT OF THIS CITY BECAUSE HIS PLANT IS VANDALIZED  
BY UNEMPLOYED YOUTHS?

WHAT DO WE DO WHEN INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS FLEE TO  
THE SUBURBS?

AND WHAT IS THE RESPONSE OF THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION?

IT SAYS THE PROBLEMS DO NOT EXIST. IT SAYS JUST  
FOLLOW OUR "GAME PLAN" AND THINGS WILL BE ALL RIGHT.

THE ADMINISTRATION DOES NOT TALK ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT; IT TALKS ABOUT "SEASONALLY ADJUSTED FIGURES" OR "STATISTICAL QUIRKS."

BUT YOU AND I KNOW THAT THE GAME PLAN HAS FAILED.

THE PROBLEMS ARE REAL AND THEY WILL NOT JUST GO AWAY.

THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION HAS REJECTED ALMOST EVERY MOVE THE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS HAS MADE TO SPUR THE ECONOMY.

IT IS UNWILLING TO INSTITUTE A NATIONAL INCOMES POLICY, TO COOL INFLATION, TO BRING CONFIDENCE TO THE DOLLAR, TO STIMULATE GROWTH.

THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION IS UNWILLING TO SIGN INTO  
LAW THE ACCELERATED PUBLIC WORKS -- LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE  
MONEY FOR BADLY NEEDED PUBLIC SERVICE FACILITIES -- AND  
SOME 200,000 JOBS. MORE THAN 1,000 SUCH PROJECTS ARE  
APPROVED AND IMMEDIATELY READY TO START. THEY WOULD  
CONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES TO THOUSANDS OF SMALL BUSINESSES  
ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION IS UNWILLING TO SPEND SOME  
\$12 BILLION IN IMPOUNDED FUNDS. AND \$1 BILLION OF THIS  
MONEY WOULD GO TO CITIES SUCH AS DETROIT.

THE ADMINISTRATION STANDS GUILTY OF HAVING  
DELIBERATELY IGNORED THE MASSIVE UNEMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG  
PEOPLE.

IT DELAYED FOR MONTHS IN REQUESTING NEEDED SUMMER  
EMPLOYMENT FUNDS FROM CONGRESS AND IN MOBILIZING PRIVATE  
EMPLOYERS TO HIRE SUMMER YOUTH HELP.

THEN IT ASKED FOR FAR TOO LITTLE, ACTUALLY REDUCING  
THE NUMBER OF YOUTH JOBS FOR THE FIRST TIME. AND NOW  
IT HAS MOVED FAR TOO LATE AND TOO SLOWLY TO PUT ITS  
LIMITED YOUTH JOBS PROGRAM INTO EFFECT.

L IN MANY CITIES ONLY ONE IN EVERY 40 WHO APPLY TO  
THE U.S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ARE PLACED IN A SUMMER JOB.  
AND MANY MORE, KNOWING THE SITUATION IS NEARLY HOPELESS,  
FAIL TO APPLY.

L IN SHORT, THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION JUST ISN'T DOING  
ENOUGH ABOUT THE UNEMPLOYED, THE FAMILY OF THE MAN OUT  
OF WORK, OR THE PAYCHECK OF THE WORKING MAN THAT IS  
BEING GOBBLED UP BY INFLATION.

L THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS PROPOSED PROGRAMS TO CURB  
INFLATION. IT HAS PROPOSED PROGRAMS TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT. AND  
WE HAVE COME TO DETROIT TO SAY THAT THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
CAN RETURN THIS NATION TO SOUND, BALANCED ECONOMIC GROWTH.



TODAY I CALL UPON THE ADMINISTRATION TO:

-- ORDER AN IMMEDIATE CRASH PROGRAM TO PROVIDE JOBS

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE;

-- IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS FOR THE PUBLIC

SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OF ADULTS:

-- RELEASE THE 12 BILLION IT REFUSES TO SPEND WHICH

THE CONGRESS APPROPRIATED LAST YEAR FOR NEEDED URBAN,

HEALTH AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS;

-- SEEK AN IMMEDIATE SPEED UP IN PUTTING INTO EFFECT

THE LOWER PERSONAL INCOME TAX RATES ALREADY ENACTED BY

CONGRESS.

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