

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

MUNICIPAL LEAGUE CONFERENCE

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November 15, 1971

Have you ever wondered what it would be like if government really worked? If the hungry were fed. If there were no consumer abuses. If we had uniformly good schools with quality education for all children and if our elderly could live out their lives in security.

If our health system prevented illness rather than sought to cure it.

If peace were a fact of life rather than a long sought goal.

What would our future be like? I believe we would have a society that has permitted the cultivation of man's individual spirit -- that permitted him to grow, to learn to develop the full potential of his talents and abilities. Man, at peace with himself, would be at peace with others. We could create what we all are seeking -- a better quality of life.

But, as we know, that is not the reality.

Man is burdened with anxiety, ripped and torn by prejudice. Men still dream and hope. But they do so encumbered by a sense of frustration.

Government reflects these same frustrations.

Government in this nation has become muscle-bound. It is big, costly, and seemingly unable to respond to the needs of people.

This is true of government at all levels. In activity after activity -- from street cleaning to public safety -- communities are barely able to meet even the most basic minimum levels of service.

As a result, in all too many instances, the spirit has gone out of our cities. And, no matter how hard we try, we cannot seem to replace it.

Look at the statistics. People move out of -- not into -- the cities. And they move away from -- not to -- the rural areas. They move increasingly to the suburbs, creating larger and larger mass metropolitan areas.

And, those who leave the city are often the young, those with education, will, spirit, and those with earning potential.

The result is predictable: The gap between rich and poor. between the haves and the have-nots grows wider, seemingly unbridgable, and frightening.

We wonder why and what can be done about it.

I'll not recite to you the usual litany about the urban and the rural crises. They are all too familiar.

What I want to do is give you my thoughts, perceptions about how to change life in American cities -- cities of all sizes with all kinds of problems.

And, this is not gospel. It is just one man's analysis and one man's desperate hope that we can do better. I believe we can. I know we must.

All of us want responsive government. To get it, our nation must confront head-on the problem of public management. Professionalism, reorganization of institutions, use of new technology -- these are beginnings, but they are not enough.

We must ask: What does government mean to people?

The average citizen does not differentiate among the various levels of government -- he thinks about the government.

And, when things do not work, he blames the government. If he is disillusioned, if he is angry, if he is bitter, if he is frustrated, it is the government.

And we are all part of it.

But too often, we pretend that it is someone else's responsibility -- the President's, the Senator's, the Mayor's, the Councilman's, or the City Manager's.

And government becomes alien, foreign, remote from the people.

What we must learn is that the government must serve people, not a system, or a board, or an authority, but people.

It is not an academic institution.

Government exists because of and for people.

I believe we need a refocus on that fact. We need to refocus on "street level government" and the essentials of public service.

People must be able to call city hall and have their sidewalks fixed, their apartments inspected, their garbage collected, snow removed, dependable electricity, enough heat.

Street level government means an equalization of fundamental services throughout the nation.

There is a great disparity today in the quality of government services.

Our people -- no matter where they live -- should have certain basic standards of service -- standards of education, of health, of social services, of public services.

This is their basic right.

We are a mobile people. But, our standards of service must be constant. We should have the same basic minimum standards in Seattle as we have in Mississippi, in New York, as in Atlanta.

But to achieve this will require the mobilizing of public commitment and the resources of a nation. We have done this for other great enterprises -- the rebuilding of Western Europe, the landing on the moon.

We can do it for our communities and the people who live in them.

Already we have the beginning.

Cities are electing mayors of stature, leaders who want to do things for people.

And, the distrust that once existed between cities and states is, on balance, disappearing. More than ever before, leaders are recognizing that problems do not affect just one government level -- problems are public, they are the concern of all governments.

There is a quiet revolution occurring in this nation. It is a revolution of people demanding accountability and sensibility from leadership.

It is a revolution that will reshape the nature of federalism from an adversary to a partnership -- a partnership with national policy objectives, but without direct Washington controls.

Commitment -- from people and leaders -- is one half of the equation. Resources is the other half. And resources means money.

Our nation has massive public needs: There is a \$12 billion poverty gap, a \$70 billion waste disposal and sewage gap, a \$15 billion clean air gap.

In 1975, over \$35 billion will be spent by state and local government on education, over \$12 billion on highways, \$15 billion on health, \$13 billion on parks and recreation.

Where are we going to get this money?

How are we going to pay the bill?

As many of you know, I have introduced a revenue sharing bill. Under this proposal, states and cities would share in the federal tax collections. The reasoning is simple. Since the federal government has the largest tax base, why not use it to accomplish local social purposes.

This money is your money and the money of the people in your communities. It is not the federal or the state government's money. It represents the earnings of people. It should be used for programs for people.

My revenue sharing bill is directly tied to making government more responsive. It gives more funds to those governments that modernize their structures.

The bill is also tied directly to desperately needed tax reform.

Look at your own communities. About 35 to 45 percent of your total revenue is raised from the property tax. Yet, who gets hit the hardest with the property tax? It is the moderate income, the middle income, and the low income taxpayer.

Our entire tax system is distributed inequitably. The poor who can least afford it pay a disproportionate share of taxes; and many who should pay most do not.

And in the highest spirit of federalism, it accepts the negotiation process worked out between the cities and states as to the distribution of the pass through dollars.

We need an income tax system at the state and local governments -- a tax system that is progressive and flexible -- a tax system that will produce the kind of revenues that will make social progress possible.

There is a third resource need: Development.

Our nation is publicly poor, but privately wealthy. For too long we have neglected our pressing demands here at home.

I believe that the 1970's should be a decade of dynamic domestic development. It should be a decade of building needed public projects, improving essential services, financing mass transit, making our government work.

How are we going to do it?

The fundamental answer is a new credit mechanism -- long term credit, and massive investment in public works.

In May of this year, I introduced the National Domestic Development Bank Act of 1971.

The objective of my bill is to provide an alternative source of funds for new schools, medical and hospital centers, day-care centers, parks, waste disposal plants, playgrounds, and much more.

Many of you here have used municipal bonds.

And you know how hard it is to sell a 40-year bond at any reasonable rate of interest.

Yet, the government of the United States, through such institutions as the Inter-American Bank makes loans for people you and I have never met.

I say to you that if we can make loans to Rio de Janeiro, at low rates of interest for 40 years, then we can make loans to Miami, to Williamsport, to Minneapolis, to Atlanta, or anywhere else right here at home.

We simply must change our financing system.

We are trying to build new community facilities on credit terms that were designed for the 1900's. And, it simply won't work.

We must have a credit structure that will eliminate the present stop-start method of public finance.

The National Domestic Development Bank emphasizes community planning -- planning that results in decisions, to move on projects, not to have another study.

It is a bank that emphasizes multi-year financing so that longer-term projects are completed.

And, it is a system that can ensure that government does reach the people.

The National Domestic Development Bank can help large cities and counties -- but what about rural areas?

Millions of people are leaving rural America for the cities, compounding the urban crisis, adding the problems of poverty and joblessness, and welfare.

It was with this in mind that I introduced companion legislation to the National Domestic Development Bank -- a supplementary program specifically for communities under 35,000 population.

The Rural Development Bank bill can give our smaller towns new hope.

Credit financing will enable us to build the public projects that are so vital and so necessary. They can provide jobs. They can infuse the economy of a town with money, with enterprise. They can put people to work.

Long term credit and investment in public projects and services can help end the stagnation of our economy -- help end the hopelessness.

If government is to work effectively, then our priorities are clear:

- A government that is People Oriented.
- A minimum basic floor of services for all Americans.
- A system of government organization and taxes that is up-to-date, progressive, and fair.
- And, a financing strategy that provides the resources for local people to design their own solutions.

These are the elements -- the fundamentals -- that will allow us to improve the human condition.

As Lincoln said, "We must disenthral ourselves of the past, for the times are new and the times call for new ideas."

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Chr of Conference

Mills Lane - Mr Atlanta - Mr Georgia

Gov. Carter - Gov. Terry Sanford
Gov. Perot - Gov. Leroy Collins
Mills Lane - Gov. Al Durrell
Gov. Underwood

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

- W. L. Wyatt - Gov. Hallock

National 77th annual Nat'l Conference
MUNICIPAL LEAGUE CONFERENCE in Government

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

NOVEMBER 15, 1971

77th annual conference

"Citizens organization for Better Govt."

Wm. Perot - President Wayne Hogen
Al Durrell - Chairman

Wm. L. Wyatt

Gov. Carter
(Recycling)

Senator
Vol

Survivor

Let me lift your spirits -

000474
L HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE IF GOVERNMENT

REALLY WORKED? L IF THE HUNGRY WERE FED. L IF THERE WERE NO CONSUMER

ABUSES. L IF WE HAD UNIFORMLY GOOD SCHOOLS WITH QUALITY EDUCATION

FOR ALL CHILDREN AND IF OUR ELDERLY COULD LIVE OUT THEIR LIVES

IN SECURITY., *or -*

L IF OUR HEALTH SYSTEM PREVENTED ILLNESS RATHER THAN SOUGHT
TO CURE IT.

L IF PEACE WERE A FACT OF LIFE RATHER THAN A LONG SOUGHT GOAL.

L WHAT WOULD OUR FUTURE BE LIKE? I BELIEVE WE WOULD HAVE A

SOCIETY THAT PERMITTED THE CULTIVATION OF MAN'S INDIVIDUAL

SPIRIT -- THAT PERMITTED HIM TO GROW, TO LEARN, ^{and} TO DEVELOP THE

FULL POTENTIAL OF HIS TALENTS AND ABILITIES. *What a*

wonderful possibility!

MAN, AT PEACE WITH HIMSELF, WOULD BE AT PEACE WITH OTHERS. WE

COULD CREATE WHAT WE ALL ARE SEEKING -- A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE.

BUT, AS WE KNOW, THAT IS NOT THE REALITY.

MAN IS BURDENED WITH ANXIETY; RIPPED AND TORN BY PREJUDICE;

MEN STILL DREAM AND HOPE. BUT THEY DO SO ~~ENDEAVOR~~ ^{weighed down} BY A SENSE

OF FRUSTRATION.

and Govt of the people - Representatives

GOVERNMENT REFLECTS THESE SAME FRUSTRATIONS.

GOVERNMENT ~~IN THIS NATION~~ HAS BECOME MUSCLE-BOUND. IT IS

BIG, COSTLY, AND SEEMINGLY UNABLE TO RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF

PEOPLE.

and, THIS IS TRUE OF GOVERNMENT AT ALL LEVELS IN ACTIVITY AFTER
ACTIVITY -- FROM STREET CLEANING TO PUBLIC SAFETY -- COMMUNITIES
ARE BARELY ABLE TO MEET EVEN THE MOST BASIC MINIMUM LEVELS OF
SERVICE.

AS A RESULT, IN ALL TOO MANY INSTANCES, THE SPIRIT HAS GONE
OUT OF OUR CITIES AND, NO MATTER HOW HARD WE TRY, WE CANNOT
SEEM TO REPLACE IT.

LOOK AT THE STATISTICS. PEOPLE MOVE OUT OF -- NOT INTO --
THE CITIES. AND THEY MOVE AWAY FROM -- NOT TO -- THE RURAL AREAS.
THEY MOVE INCREASINGLY TO THE SUBURBS, CREATING LARGER AND LARGER
MASS METROPOLITAN AREAS.

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+ the Rural areas

AND, THOSE WHO LEAVE THE CITY ARE OFTEN THE YOUNG - THOSE
WITH EDUCATION, WILL, SPIRIT, AND THOSE WITH EARNING POTENTIAL.

THE RESULT IS PREDICTABLE: THE GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR,
BETWEEN THE HAVES AND THE HAVE-NOTS GROWS WIDER, SEEMINGLY
UNBRIDGABLE, AND FRIGHTENING!

~~WE WONDER WHY AND WHAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT IT.~~

I'LL NOT RECITE TO YOU THE USUAL LITANY ABOUT THE URBAN AND
THE RURAL CRISES. THEY ARE ALL TOO FAMILIAR.

WHAT I WANT TO DO IS GIVE YOU MY THOUGHTS, PERCEPTIONS
ABOUT HOW TO CHANGE LIFE IN AMERICAN CITIES -- CITIES OF ALL
SIZES WITH ALL KINDS OF PROBLEMS.

L AND, THIS IS NOT GOSPEL, IT IS JUST ONE MAN'S ANALYSIS
AND ONE MAN'S DESPERATE HOPE THAT WE CAN DO BETTER. L I BELIEVE
WE CAN. I KNOW WE MUST!

L ALL OF US WANT RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT L TO GET IT, OUR
NATION MUST CONFRONT HEAD-ON THE PROBLEM OF PUBLIC MANAGEMENT.

L PROFESSIONALISM, REORGANIZATION OF INSTITUTIONS, USE OF NEW
TECHNOLOGY -- THESE ARE BEGINNINGS, BUT THEY ARE NOT ENOUGH.

L WE MUST ASK: WHAT DOES GOVERNMENT MEAN TO PEOPLE?

L THE AVERAGE CITIZEN DOES NOT DIFFERENTIATE AMONG THE
VARIOUS LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT -- HE THINKS ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT.

AND, WHEN THINGS DO NOT WORK, HE BLAMES THE GOVERNMENT.

L IF HE IS DISILLUSIONED, IF HE IS ANGRY, IF HE IS BITTER, IF HE
IS FRUSTRATED, IT IS THE GOVERNMENT.

L AND WE ARE ALL PART OF IT.

L BUT TOO OFTEN, WE PRETEND THAT IT IS SOMEONE ELSE'S
RESPONSIBILITY -- THE PRESIDENT'S, THE SENATOR'S, THE MAYOR'S,
THE COUNCILMAN'S, OR THE CITY MANAGER'S.

L AND GOVERNMENT BECOMES ALIEN, FOREIGN, REMOTE FROM THE
PEOPLE.

L WHAT WE MUST LEARN IS THAT THE GOVERNMENT MUST SERVE
PEOPLE, NOT A SYSTEM, OR A BOARD, OR AN AUTHORITY, BUT PEOPLE.

People

L IT IS NOT AN ACADEMIC INSTITUTION!

L GOVERNMENT EXISTS BECAUSE OF AND FOR PEOPLE!

And
~~I BELIEVE~~ WE NEED A REFOCUS ON THAT FACT WE NEED TO REFOCUS

ON "STREET LEVEL GOVERNMENT" AND THE ESSENTIALS OF PUBLIC SERVICE,

For example
L PEOPLE MUST BE ABLE TO CALL CITY HALL AND HAVE THEIR

SIDEWALKS FIXED, THEIR APARTMENTS INSPECTED, THEIR GARBAGE

COLLECTED, SNOW REMOVED, DEPENDABLE ELECTRICITY, ENOUGH HEAT *etc*

And L STREET LEVEL GOVERNMENT MEANS AN EQUALIZATION OF FUNDAMENTAL
SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE NATION.

THERE IS A GREAT DISPARITY TODAY IN THE QUALITY OF GOVERNMENT
SERVICES.

L OUR PEOPLE -- NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE -- SHOULD HAVE
CERTAIN BASIC STANDARDS OF SERVICE -- STANDARDS OF EDUCATION, OF
HEALTH, OF SOCIAL SERVICES, OF PUBLIC SERVICES.

L THIS IS THEIR BASIC RIGHT *as a U.S. citizen!*

L WE ARE A MOBILE PEOPLE! BUT, OUR STANDARDS OF SERVICE MUST
BE CONSTANT. WE SHOULD HAVE THE SAME BASIC MINIMUM STANDARDS IN

SEATTLE AS WE HAVE IN MISSISSIPPI, IN NEW YORK, AS IN ATLANTA

L BUT TO ACHIEVE THIS WILL REQUIRE THE MOBILIZING OF PUBLIC
COMMITMENT AND THE RESOURCES OF A NATION. WE HAVE DONE THIS

FOR OTHER GREAT ENTERPRISES -- THE REBUILDING OF WESTERN EUROPE,

THE LANDING ON THE MOON.

Marshall Plan!!

and

WE CAN DO IT FOR OUR COMMUNITIES AND THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN
THEM.

ALREADY WE HAVE THE BEGINNING.

CITIES ARE ELECTING MAYORS OF STATURE, LEADERS WHO WANT TO
DO THINGS FOR PEOPLE.

AND, THE DISTRUST THAT ONCE EXISTED BETWEEN CITIES AND
STATES IS, ON BALANCE, DISAPPEARING. MORE THAN EVER BEFORE,
LEADERS ARE RECOGNIZING THAT PROBLEMS DO NOT AFFECT JUST ONE
GOVERNMENT LEVEL -- PROBLEMS ARE PUBLIC, THEY ARE THE CONCERN
OF ALL GOVERNMENTS.

THERE IS A QUIET REVOLUTION OCCURRING IN THIS NATION. IT
IS ~~THE~~ PEOPLE DEMANDING ACCOUNTABILITY AND SENSIBILITY
FROM LEADERSHIP.

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*Change in thinking*IT IS A ~~CHANGE~~ THAT WILL RESHAPE THE NATURE OF

FEDERALISM FROM AN ADVERSARY TO A PARTNERSHIP -- A PARTNERSHIP

WITH NATIONAL POLICY OBJECTIVES, ^{*local adaptations -*} BUT WITHOUT DIRECT WASHINGTON

CONTROLS.

*Commitment + Planning -**But* COMMITMENT -- FROM PEOPLE AND LEADERS -- IS ONE HALF OF

THE EQUATION. RESOURCES IS THE OTHER HALF. AND RESOURCES MEANS

MONEY.

*Resources*OUR NATION HAS MASSIVE PUBLIC NEEDS: ~~THERE IS A \$12 BILLION~~~~POVERTY GAP, A \$78 BILLION WASTE DISPOSAL AND SEWAGE GAP, A~~~~\$19 BILLION CLEAN AIR GAP,~~

IN 1975, OVER \$35 BILLION WILL BE SPENT BY STATE AND LOCAL

GOVERNMENT ON EDUCATION, OVER \$12 BILLION ON HIGHWAYS, \$15

BILLION ON HEALTH, \$13 BILLION ON PARKS AND RECREATION.

Partnership
Govt + Private

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000484

WHERE ARE WE GOING TO GET THIS MONEY?

HOW ARE WE GOING TO PAY THE BILL?

Our Economy
Growth
Jobs - Again

AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, I HAVE INTRODUCED A REVENUE SHARING

BILL. UNDER THIS PROPOSAL, STATES AND CITIES WOULD SHARE IN THE

FEDERAL TAX COLLECTIONS. THE REASONING IS SIMPLE! SINCE THE

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS THE LARGEST TAX BASE, WHY NOT USE IT TO

ACCOMPLISH LOCAL SOCIAL PURPOSES.

[THIS MONEY IS YOUR MONEY AND THE MONEY OF THE PEOPLE IN

YOUR COMMUNITIES. IT IS NOT THE FEDERAL OR THE STATE GOVERNMENT'S

MONEY. IT REPRESENTS THE EARNINGS OF PEOPLE. IT SHOULD BE USED FOR

PROGRAMS FOR PEOPLE. !

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MY REVENUE SHARING BILL IS DIRECTLY TIED TO MAKING GOVERNMENT
MORE RESPONSIVE. IT GIVES MORE FUNDS TO THOSE GOVERNMENTS THAT

MODERNIZE THEIR STRUCTURES.

*It provides a pass-through
of Dollars from State to local government.*

THE BILL IS ALSO TIED DIRECTLY TO DESPERATELY NEEDED TAX

REFORM.

LOOK AT YOUR OWN COMMUNITIES. ABOUT 35 TO 45 PERCENT OF YOUR
TOTAL REVENUE IS RAISED FROM THE PROPERTY TAX. YET, WHO GETS
HIT THE HARDEST WITH THE PROPERTY TAX? IT IS THE MODERATE INCOME,
THE MIDDLE INCOME, AND THE LOW INCOME TAXPAYER.

OUR ENTIRE TAX SYSTEM IS DISTRIBUTED INEQUITABLY. THE POOR
WHO CAN LEAST AFFORD IT PAY A DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE OF TAXES;

AND MANY WHO SHOULD PAY ~~more~~ DO NOT.

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AND IN THE HIGHEST SPIRIT OF FEDERALISM, IT ACCEPTS THE
NEGOTIATION PROCESS WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE CITIES AND STATES
AS TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE PASS THROUGH DOLLARS.

WE NEED AN INCOME TAX SYSTEM AT THE STATE ~~AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS~~ *level*

-- A TAX SYSTEM THAT IS PROGRESSIVE AND FLEXIBLE -- A TAX
SYSTEM THAT WILL PRODUCE THE KIND OF REVENUES THAT WILL MAKE
SOCIAL PROGRESS POSSIBLE.

#3 *another* THERE IS ~~A~~ *THIRD* RESOURCE NEED: DEVELOPMENT.

L OUR NATION IS PUBLICLY POOR, BUT PRIVATELY WEALTHY. FOR

TOO LONG WE HAVE NEGLECTED OUR PRESSING DEMANDS HERE AT HOME.

~~I BELIEVE THAT~~ THE 1970'S SHOULD BE A DECADE OF DYNAMIC
DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT. IT SHOULD BE A DECADE OF BUILDING NEEDED
PUBLIC PROJECTS, IMPROVING ESSENTIAL SERVICES, FINANCING MASS
TRANSIT, MAKING OUR GOVERNMENT WORK.

HOW ARE WE GOING TO DO IT?

THE FUNDAMENTAL ANSWER IS A NEW CREDIT MECHANISM -- LONG
TERM CREDIT, AND MASSIVE INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC WORKS.

IN MAY OF THIS YEAR, I INTRODUCED THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC
DEVELOPMENT BANK ACT OF 1971.

THE OBJECTIVE OF MY BILL IS TO PROVIDE AN ALTERNATIVE SOURCE
OF FUNDS FOR NEW SCHOOLS, MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL CENTERS, DAY-CARE
CENTERS, PARKS, WASTE DISPOSAL PLANTS, PLAYGROUNDS, AND MUCH
MORE.

L MANY OF YOU HERE HAVE USED MUNICIPAL BONDS.

AND YOU KNOW HOW HARD IT IS TO SELL A 40-YEAR BOND AT ANY
REASONABLE RATE OF INTEREST.

L YET, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THROUGH SUCH
INSTITUTIONS AS THE INTER-AMERICAN BANK MAKES LOANS FOR PEOPLE
YOU AND I HAVE NEVER MET.

L I SAY TO YOU THAT IF WE CAN MAKE LOANS TO RIO DE JANEIRO,
AT LOW RATES OF INTEREST FOR 40 YEARS, THEN WE CAN MAKE LOANS
TO MIAMI, TO WILLIAMSPORT, TO MINNEAPOLIS, TO ATLANTA, OR
ANYWHERE ELSE RIGHT HERE AT HOME.

L WE SIMPLY MUST CHANGE OUR FINANCING SYSTEM.

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L WE ARE TRYING TO BUILD NEW COMMUNITY FACILITIES ON CREDIT
TERMS THAT WERE DESIGNED FOR THE 1900's. AND, IT SIMPLY WON'T
WORK.

and L WE MUST HAVE A CREDIT STRUCTURE THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE
PRESENT STOP-START METHOD OF PUBLIC FINANCE. !

L THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT BANK EMPHASIZES COMMUNITY
PLANNING -- PLANNING THAT RESULTS IN DECISIONS, TO MOVE ON
PROJECTS, NOT TO HAVE ANOTHER STUDY.

L IT IS A BANK THAT EMPHASIZES MULTI-YEAR FINANCING SO THAT
LONGER-TERM PROJECTS ARE COMPLETED.

L AND, IT IS A SYSTEM THAT CAN ENSURE THAT GOVERNMENT DOES REACH
THE PEOPLE.

L THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT BANK CAN HELP LARGE
CITIES AND COUNTIES -- BUT WHAT ABOUT RURAL AREAS?

L MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ARE LEAVING RURAL AMERICA FOR THE CITIES,
COMPOUNDING THE URBAN CRISIS, ADDING THE PROBLEMS OF POVERTY AND
JOBLESSNESS, AND WELFARE

L IT WAS WITH THIS IN MIND THAT I INTRODUCED COMPANION
LEGISLATION TO THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT BANK -- A
SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAM SPECIFICALLY FOR COMMUNITIES UNDER 35,000
POPULATION.

Rural Bank

L THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT BANK BILL CAN GIVE OUR SMALLER TOWNS
NEW HOPE.

L CREDIT FINANCING WILL ENABLE US TO BUILD THE PUBLIC PROJECTS
THAT ARE SO VITAL AND SO NECESSARY. L THEY CAN PROVIDE JOBS. L THEY
CAN INFUSE THE ECONOMY OF A TOWN WITH MONEY, WITH ENTERPRISE.

L THEY CAN PUT PEOPLE TO WORK.

L LONG TERM CREDIT AND INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC PROJECTS AND
SERVICES CAN HELP END THE STAGNATION OF OUR ECONOMY -- HELP END
THE HOPELESSNESS.

L IF GOVERNMENT IS TO WORK EFFECTIVELY, THEN OUR PRIORITIES
ARE CLEAR:

-- A GOVERNMENT THAT IS PEOPLE ORIENTED.

-- A MINIMUM BASIC FLOOR OF SERVICES FOR ALL AMERICANS.

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-- A SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION AND TAXES THAT IS
UP-TO-DATE, PROGRESSIVE, AND FAIR,

-- AND, A FINANCING STRATEGY THAT PROVIDES THE RESOURCES
FOR LOCAL PEOPLE TO DESIGN THEIR OWN SOLUTIONS,

THESE ARE THE ELEMENTS -- THE FUNDAMENTALS -- THAT WILL
ALLOW US TO IMPROVE THE HUMAN CONDITION.

AS LINCOLN SAID, "WE MUST DISENTHRALL OURSELVES OF THE
PAST, FOR THE TIMES ARE NEW AND THE TIMES CALL FOR NEW IDEAS."

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