

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

PLANNING POLICY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS CONFERENCE

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PLANNERS

L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, Washington, D.C.

February 25, 1974

Meeting with the American Institute of Planners is always a pleasure. You have been valued co-workers on national concerns we have shared over the years.

I am particularly happy to be with you today, because I have something to discuss that I know you are keenly interested in -- in fact, some of your members have been of great help and inspiration in offering comments and ideas on the proposals that I will outline to you today.

I am pleased that the Council of State Planning Agencies is represented here as co-sponsor of this conference. You, too, have contributed to the thinking that has gone into these proposals. I will welcome the advice and counsel of both organizations, and of the planning profession in general, in the months to come.

Today in the Senate I am introducing the Balanced National Growth and Development Act of 1974, a measure that many of you may recall I have discussed with you in the past while the bill was still in its formative stages. Now that it is being formally introduced in the Senate, I have hopes that it will receive the fullest consideration of both Houses of Congress.

The need for this Act should be obvious to us all. We need only look around us.

Our nation is currently in the grips of a fuel shortage.

American manufacturers complain increasingly about scarcities of raw materials which they need to produce their goods.

And we have reason to fear that unless urgent action is taken we may face a food shortage in the coming months and years that will hit some parts of the world so hard that the present energy problems will seem mild by comparison.

Each of these problems has been made worse in some degree by governmental action and policy -- or by the Administration's delay or inaction.

Yet, such shortages represent only one aspect of unplanned, uncontrolled growth.

All of you here are familiar with how unplanned growth has contributed to the decay of our cities, the neglectful withering of our small towns, and the deterioration of our rural countryside and its environment.

While city dwellers have moved out to the suburbs in search of the better life, rural blacks -- and whites, too, displaced from the land by machines -- fled to the city to find work. Federal policies, in this instance designed to make our farm economy the most productive and efficient in the world, helped stimulate this rural migration.

So the nation has had policies which, consciously or not, helped encourage, or force, people to move.

But we have not developed policies to help the poor left behind in decaying rural areas. Nor have we developed policies to help people make the transition from the rural areas to the city.

This is critical to an understanding of the problems which presently plague our urban areas. For it is this vast outmigration of people from rural areas to urban central cities -- a migration larger than any in history, amounting to 30 million people -- which is at the root of the "urban crisis."

This migration has meant 3 million family farms disappeared, taken over by the continuing technological revolution in agriculture.

At the same time, we have compressed 70 percent of our population into urban areas containing only 2 percent of our land. Those living in the remaining countryside often exist in lonely decline -- while the city residents live in cramped disorder. And suburbs grow endlessly, shapelessly, without sense of identity or community.

The results have been seen in the national crisis of the environment, and in human relationships festering with social and economic sores.

If this rush toward an ill-conceived form of "progress" and the continual cramming of more and more people into less and less space goes on unabated, within 30 years we will have pushed 100 million more Americans into megalopolis, where 150 million already live.

This would mean that a new city the size of Portland, Oregon, would have to be created every 30 days for three decades.

Obviously, these trends cannot continue. Fortunately, there are growing numbers of enlightened individuals among us who see the disaster that lies ahead and recognize the need to change our course.

You, as professional planners, are part of the nation's first line of defense against such urban blight and rural decay. Yet, your federal government has failed in many ways to give you the support and the tools you need to do your jobs.

True, we have made some strides. We have provided programs and funds to help the states, cities, and rural areas begin to replace or restore what had decayed, and to control the flow of pollutants into our air and water and onto our precious land. But all too often the will of Congress has been thwarted by wrong-headed and downright illegal withholding of the funds needed to achieve these objectives.

It is true that there have been advances in many parts of the nation. Many urban development and redevelopment agencies, local and regional planning organizations and state governments, have sought to provide for more orderly and rational growth and development. And they deserve praise and encouragement.

But anything that has been achieved has come in the absence of rational, comprehensive policy to promote balance and order in the nation's growth and development.

It is remarkable that as much has been accomplished -- or that no worse damage has been done -- under the laissez-faire philosophy we have been following.

However, I find it incredible that a proposed federal budget of some \$300 billion in fiscal 1975 offers no decisive new direction whatsoever in the national planning for balanced growth and development that is so critically needed today. There is a disturbing philosophy apparently governing the actions of the present Administration, that somehow tomorrow will take care of itself. Meanwhile, we continue with a system of departments and agencies in the Executive Branch too often working at cross purposes as each goes its own way.

The fundamental fact we must face is that tomorrow is already here -- we must stop acting as if space in America were a limitless resource.

Government -- all levels of government -- must begin planning together. We must begin to do those things which will influence our nation's growth in a more orderly way -- in a way designed for people, rather than expediency.

We must design a national growth policy that will have as its central premise the relationship of people to land, water, air, and resources. There must be a healthy balance that permits people to live in harmony with their environment.

We must establish the right of all people to have a realistic choice about where they will live and work -- not a choice dictated by politics or economics.

This means that young people will not be forced, as they are now, to migrate to metropolitan areas because there are no jobs at home. This means that people who may want to live in small towns can expect to find good schools for their children, a decent transportation system, and the best of medical care and medical facilities.

This means new industries, modern social services, and cultural activities. It means that Americans should be able to enjoy all the benefits of life, liberty and property not only in big cities, not only in suburbs, but all over America.

The Balanced National Growth and Development Act calls for an end to the failure of governmental responsibility in meeting the demands of the present and the critical needs of the future.

This Act would address the imbalances in our national growth. It would create policies which assure that rural areas and inner cities get their fair share of jobs, as well as the suburbs; that environmental considerations are balanced with the need for economic development; that transportation is balanced between mass transit and the private automobile.

This Act would reorganize the legislative and executive branches, so that policies are set with an eye to how they relate to these and other goals of balanced growth. It would make regional planning a reality, and bring to bear the best brains in the nation to consider where we are headed and how to get there.

First, this bill would establish an Office of Balanced National Growth and Development within the Executive Office of the President. This new office would become the core of Executive Branch activities to establish, coordinate, and

implement the various policies and programs developed and enacted by Congress under which balanced national growth and development shall evolve.

Associated with this office would be a Council on Balanced National Growth and Development. The Council would be made up of the heads of each of the federal departments and agencies administering programs having an impact on national growth and development.

Cabinet secretaries, regulatory commission chairmen and other top-level officers would be included. The Council will be a focal point for pulling together federal resources and programs.

The Office would be directly linked to state and local planning agencies through a system of regional offices, and would administer all federal planning and planning assistance programs. The office would evaluate the budget requests of federal agencies to identify and make recommendations on budgets and programs affecting national growth and development policy goals. And it would submit an annual report on national growth and development -- not just urban or rural -- and would continually monitor state and local growth trends and collect and disseminate important data.

Second, the bill would establish multi-state regional planning and development commissions. The commissions would be the mechanism for involving elected officials of the states, both governors and state legislators, and presidentially appointed representatives for each state, in the national growth and development policy and decision-making process.

A third feature of this legislation is the provision for citizen involvement in the federal, regional, and state planning process. A National Citizens Council on the American Future would be created. And the establishment of similar councils at the regional and state levels would be encouraged, to advise the federal office and Congress on planning, growth, and development policies.

In Congress, the bill would establish a Joint Congressional Committee on Balanced National Growth, and a Congressional Office of Policy and Planning.

The Office would be the Congressional counterpart of the Office of Balanced National Growth and Development in the Executive Branch. It would provide the national legislature with the expert policy-making counsel needed for enlightened lawmaking.

The Joint Committee would be in charge of reviewing, with the advice and counsel of the Congressional Office, all proposed legislation affecting balanced national growth development, and would make independent recommendations to all standing committees of Congress. These recommendations would be based upon the Joint Committee's comprehensive assessment of essential national priorities.

To undertake comprehensive and long-range research geared to the development of public policy, the bill proposes the establishment of a Foundation on the American Future, an independent agency with specified powers and responsibilities. The Foundation would prepare and pursue an annual research agenda. Its reports and recommendations will be made available to the general public.

Finally, in an effort to chart the nation's present and future growth trends, the bill establishes an Agency for Population and Demographic Analysis within the Bureau of the Census. The Agency would consolidate and expand existing federal census efforts. Most important, it would weigh the impact of various levels and distributions of population in the nation. It would project requirements for such things as education facilities, new housing, expanded public facilities, and comprehensive programs for the elderly.

These are the highlights of the bill and what it is intended to accomplish. I do not suggest that it is the final answer. Rather, I view this bill as a major beginning. It goes far beyond anything on the books today, toward establishing an orderly, systematic, comprehensive framework for devising, coordinating and carrying out policies of balanced national growth and development.

The professionals represented here today may be the most important group in today's society. You may hold the key to insuring that we have a livable society tomorrow. And the conference you hold here this week could be the most important you have held in your existence.

I hope that the Congress will undertake its own serious "conference" on these vital issues, and will move to early consideration of the Balanced National Growth and Development Act, so that we can all go to work on the issues it deals with -- issues that affect our national survival.

But if the provisions of this act call for a unified approach to a problem that is national in scope, then the political approach to this measure must also be of a unified, national character. Parochial and provincial bickering cannot be permitted to stand in the way of action on issues so vital to all Americans.

It is imperative that city and country stop shooting one another down and begin working together -- because rural and urban America are inseparably tied together.

We are not talking about a city problem or a rural problem. It is not a liberal issue nor a conservative issue. It is not Northern, Southern, Eastern or Western. It is the very life of our country.

This is something we must face together as Americans. The issue at hand is the nation's destiny.

In this way we can carry forward the pioneer spirit which made our nation great. We can build an America that may be seen throughout the world as Carl Sandburg saw us:

"I see America, not in the setting sun of a black night of despair ahead of us. I see America in the crimson light of a rising sun, fresh from the burning, creative hand of God. I see great days ahead, great days possible to men and women of will and vision."

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Bob Einsweiler

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L'ENFANT PLAZA HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D.C.

FEBRUARY 25, 1974

1969 - June 11th
8 Mac.

MEETING WITH THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PLANNERS IS ALWAYS
A PLEASURE. YOU HAVE BEEN VALUED CO-WORKERS ON NATIONAL
CONCERNS WE HAVE SHARED OVER THE YEARS.

(20 yrs Ago -
Langemann
Herb Stein)

∟ I AM PARTICULARLY HAPPY TO BE WITH YOU TODAY, BECAUSE I
HAVE SOMETHING TO DISCUSS THAT I KNOW YOU ARE KEENLY INTERESTED
IN -- IN FACT, SOME OF YOUR MEMBERS HAVE BEEN OF GREAT HELP AND
INSPIRATION IN OFFERING COMMENTS AND IDEAS ON THE PROPOSALS
THAT I WILL OUTLINE TO YOU TODAY.

∟ I AM PLEASED THAT THE COUNCIL OF STATE PLANNING AGENCIES
IS REPRESENTED HERE AS CO-SPONSOR OF THIS CONFERENCE. You,
TOO, HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE THINKING THAT HAS GONE INTO THESE
PROPOSALS.

I WILL WELCOME THE ADVICE AND COUNSEL OF BOTH

ORGANIZATIONS, AND OF THE PLANNING PROFESSION IN GENERAL, IN

THE MONTHS TO COME.

(national Forest & Rangeland
Plans)

TODAY IN THE SENATE I AM INTRODUCING THE BALANCED NATIONAL

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974, A MEASURE THAT MANY OF

YOU MAY RECALL I HAVE DISCUSSED WITH YOU IN THE PAST WHILE

THE BILL WAS STILL IN ITS FORMATIVE STAGES. Now THAT IT IS

BEING FORMALLY INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE, I HAVE HOPES THAT IT

WILL RECEIVE THE FULLEST CONSIDERATION OF BOTH HOUSES OF

CONGRESS.

THE NEED FOR THIS ACT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS TO US ALL. WE

NEED ONLY LOOK AROUND US.

✓ OUR NATION IS CURRENTLY IN THE GRIPS OF A FUEL SHORTAGE.

✓ AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS COMPLAIN INCREASINGLY ABOUT

SCARCITIES OF RAW MATERIALS WHICH THEY NEED TO PRODUCE THEIR
GOODS.

✓ AND WE HAVE REASON TO FEAR THAT UNLESS URGENT ACTION IS

TAKEN WE MAY FACE A FOOD SHORTAGE IN THE COMING MONTHS AND

YEARS THAT WILL HIT SOME PARTS OF THE WORLD SO HARD THAT THE
PRESENT ENERGY PROBLEMS WILL SEEM MILD BY COMPARISON.

✓ EACH OF THESE PROBLEMS HAS BEEN MADE WORSE IN SOME DEGREE

BY GOVERNMENTAL ACTION AND POLICY -- OR BY THE ADMINISTRATION'S

DELAY OR INACTION.

YET, SUCH SHORTAGES REPRESENT ONLY ONE ASPECT OF UNPLANNED,
UNCONTROLLED GROWTH.

ALL OF YOU ~~ARE~~ ARE FAMILIAR WITH HOW UNPLANNED GROWTH HAS
CONTRIBUTED TO THE DECAY OF OUR CITIES, THE NEGLECTFUL
WITHERING OF OUR SMALL TOWNS, AND THE DETERIORATION OF OUR
RURAL COUNTRYSIDE AND ITS ENVIRONMENT.

WHILE CITY DWELLERS HAVE MOVED OUT TO THE SUBURBS IN SEARCH
OF THE BETTER LIFE, RURAL BLACKS -- AND WHITES, TOO, DISPLACED
FROM THE LAND BY MACHINES -- FLED TO THE CITY TO FIND WORK.

FEDERAL POLICIES, IN THIS INSTANCE DESIGNED TO MAKE OUR FARM
ECONOMY THE MOST PRODUCTIVE AND EFFICIENT IN THE WORLD, HELPED
STIMULATE THIS RURAL MIGRATION.

So THE NATION HAS HAD POLICIES WHICH, CONSCIOUSLY OR NOT,
HELPED ENCOURAGE, OR FORCE, PEOPLE TO MOVE,

BUT WE HAVE NOT DEVELOPED POLICIES TO HELP THE POOR LEFT
BEHIND IN DECAYING RURAL AREAS. NOR HAVE WE DEVELOPED

POLICIES TO HELP PEOPLE MAKE THE TRANSITION FROM THE RURAL
AREAS TO THE CITY.

THIS IS CRITICAL TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH
PRESENTLY PLAGUE OUR URBAN AREAS. FOR IT IS THIS VAST OUTMI-
GRATION OF PEOPLE FROM RURAL AREAS TO URBAN CENTRAL CITIES
-- A MIGRATION LARGER THAN ANY IN HISTORY, AMOUNTING TO 30
MILLION PEOPLE -- WHICH IS AT THE ROOT OF THE "URBAN CRISIS."

THIS MIGRATION HAS MEANT 3 MILLION FAMILY FARMS DISAPPEARED,
TAKEN OVER BY THE CONTINUING TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION IN
AGRICULTURE.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE COMPRESSED 70 PERCENT OF OUR
POPULATION INTO URBAN AREAS CONTAINING ONLY 2 PERCENT OF OUR

LAND. THOSE LIVING IN THE REMAINING COUNTRYSIDE OFTEN EXIST
IN LONELY DECLINE -- WHILE THE CITY RESIDENTS LIVE IN CRAMPED
DISORDER, AND SUBURBS GROW ENDLESSLY, SHAPELESSLY, ^{and often} WITHOUT
SENSE OF IDENTITY OR COMMUNITY.

THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN SEEN IN THE NATIONAL CRISIS OF THE
ENVIRONMENT, AND IN HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS FESTERING WITH SOCIAL
AND ECONOMIC SORES.

✓ IF THIS RUSH TOWARD AN ILL-CONCEIVED FORM OF "PROGRESS"
AND THE CONTINUAL CRAMMING OF MORE AND MORE PEOPLE INTO
LESS AND LESS SPACE GOES ON UNABATED, ^{then} WITHIN 30 YEARS WE WILL
HAVE PUSHED 100 MILLION MORE AMERICANS INTO MEGALOPOLIS, WHERE
150 MILLION ALREADY LIVE.

✓ THIS WOULD MEAN THAT A NEW CITY THE SIZE OF PORTLAND,
OREGON, WOULD HAVE TO BE CREATED EVERY 30 DAYS FOR THREE
DECADES.

✓ OBVIOUSLY, THESE TRENDS CANNOT CONTINUE. ✓ FORTUNATELY,
THERE ARE GROWING NUMBERS OF ENLIGHTENED INDIVIDUALS AMONG US
WHO SEE THE DISASTER THAT LIES AHEAD AND RECOGNIZE THE NEED TO
CHANGE OUR COURSE.

✓ You, AS PROFESSIONAL PLANNERS, ARE PART OF THE NATION'S

FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST SUCH URBAN BLIGHT AND RURAL

DECAY. ✓ YET, YOUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS FAILED IN MANY WAYS TO

GIVE YOU THE SUPPORT AND THE TOOLS YOU NEED TO DO YOUR JOBS.

✓ TRUE, WE HAVE MADE SOME STRIDES. ✓ WE HAVE PROVIDED PROGRAMS

AND FUNDS TO HELP THE STATES, CITIES, AND RURAL AREAS BEGIN TO

REPLACE OR RESTORE WHAT HAD DECAYED, AND TO CONTROL THE FLOW

OF POLLUTANTS INTO OUR AIR AND WATER AND ONTO OUR PRECIOUS

LAND. ✓ BUT, ALL TOO OFTEN, THE WILL OF CONGRESS HAS BEEN THWARTED

BY ~~THEir~~ AND DOWNRIGHT ILLEGAL WITHHOLDING OF THE

FUNDS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THESE OBJECTIVES.

Miner
Planning
Commission
Jerry
Christman

IT IS TRUE THAT THERE HAVE BEEN ADVANCES IN MANY PARTS OF
THE NATION. MANY URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCIES,
LOCAL AND REGIONAL PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS AND STATE GOVERNMENTS,
HAVE SOUGHT TO PROVIDE FOR MORE ORDERLY AND RATIONAL GROWTH
AND DEVELOPMENT. ~~AND~~ THEY DESERVE PRAISE AND ENCOURAGEMENT.

BUT ANYTHING THAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED HAS COME IN THE ABSENCE
a national
OF RATIONAL, COMPREHENSIVE POLICY TO PROMOTE BALANCE AND ORDER
IN THE NATION'S GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

IT IS REMARKABLE THAT AS MUCH HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED -- OR
THAT NO WORSE DAMAGE HAS BEEN DONE -- UNDER THE LAISSEZ-FAIRE
PHILOSOPHY WE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING.

U.S. Budget - only instrument of Planning
- closed! -9-

~~However~~, I FIND IT INCREDIBLE THAT A PROPOSED FEDERAL
BUDGET OF SOME \$300 BILLION IN FISCAL 1975 OFFERS NO

DECISIVE NEW DIRECTION WHATSOEVER IN THE NATIONAL PLANNING

FOR BALANCED GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT THAT IS SO CRITICALLY

NEEDED TODAY. *There is a disturbing philosophy apparently*

GOVERNING THE ACTIONS OF THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION, *namely,*

SOMEHOW TOMORROW WILL TAKE CARE OF ITSELF. *MEANWHILE, WE*

CONTINUE WITH A SYSTEM OF DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES IN THE

EXECUTIVE BRANCH TOO OFTEN WORKING AT CROSS PURPOSES AS

EACH GOES ITS OWN WAY.

Federalizer - Dept Agency

The THE FUNDAMENTAL FACT WE MUST FACE IS THAT TOMORROW IS

Future is now

ALREADY HERE -- WE MUST STOP ACTING AS IF SPACE IN AMERICA

WERE A LIMITLESS RESOURCE.

GOVERNMENT -- ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT -- MUST BEGIN
PLANNING TOGETHER. WE MUST BEGIN TO DO THOSE THINGS WHICH WILL
INFLUENCE OUR NATION'S GROWTH IN A MORE ORDERLY WAY -- IN A
WAY DESIGNED FOR PEOPLE, RATHER THAN EXPEDIENCY.

WE MUST DESIGN A NATIONAL GROWTH POLICY THAT WILL HAVE AS
ITS CENTRAL PREMISE THE RELATIONSHIP OF PEOPLE TO LAND, WATER,
AIR, AND RESOURCES. THERE MUST BE A HEALTHY BALANCE THAT PERMITS
PEOPLE TO LIVE IN HARMONY WITH THEIR ENVIRONMENT.

WE MUST ESTABLISH THE RIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE TO HAVE A
REALISTIC CHOICE ABOUT WHERE THEY WILL LIVE AND WORK -- NOT A
CHOICE DICTATED BY POLITICS OR ECONOMICS.

THIS MEANS THAT YOUNG PEOPLE WILL NOT BE FORCED, AS THEY
ARE NOW, TO MIGRATE TO METROPOLITAN AREAS BECAUSE THERE ARE NO
JOB AT HOME. THIS MEANS THAT PEOPLE WHO MAY WANT TO LIVE
IN SMALL TOWNS CAN EXPECT TO FIND GOOD SCHOOLS FOR THEIR
CHILDREN, A DECENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM, AND THE BEST OF
MEDICAL CARE AND MEDICAL FACILITIES.

THIS MEANS NEW INDUSTRIES, MODERN SOCIAL SERVICES, AND
CULTURAL ACTIVITIES. IT MEANS THAT AMERICANS SHOULD BE ABLE
TO ENJOY ALL THE BENEFITS OF LIFE, LIBERTY AND PROPERTY NOT
ONLY IN BIG CITIES, NOT ONLY IN SUBURBS, BUT ALL OVER AMERICA.

THE BALANCED NATIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT CALLS
FOR AN END TO THE FAILURE OF GOVERNMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY IN
MEETING THE DEMANDS OF THE PRESENT AND THE CRITICAL NEEDS OF
THE FUTURE.

THIS ACT WOULD ADDRESS THE IMBALANCES IN OUR NATIONAL
GROWTH. IT WOULD CREATE POLICIES WHICH ASSURE THAT RURAL AREAS
AND INNER CITIES GET THEIR FAIR SHARE OF JOBS, AS WELL AS THE
SUBURBS; THAT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS ARE BALANCED WITH
THE NEED FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; THAT TRANSPORTATION IS
BALANCED BETWEEN MASS TRANSIT AND THE PRIVATE AUTOMOBILE.

THIS ACT WOULD REORGANIZE THE LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE
BRANCHES, SO THAT POLICIES ARE SET WITH AN EYE TO HOW THEY
RELATE TO THESE AND OTHER GOALS OF BALANCED GROWTH. IT WOULD
MAKE REGIONAL PLANNING A REALITY, AND BRING TO BEAR THE BEST
BRAINS IN THE NATION TO CONSIDER WHERE WE ARE HEADED AND HOW
TO GET THERE.

① FIRST, THIS BILL WOULD ESTABLISH AN OFFICE OF BALANCED
NATIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
OF THE PRESIDENT. THIS NEW OFFICE WOULD BECOME THE CORE OF
EXECUTIVE BRANCH ACTIVITIES TO ESTABLISH, COORDINATE, AND
IMPLEMENT THE VARIOUS POLICIES AND PROGRAMS DEVELOPED AND
ENACTED BY CONGRESS UNDER WHICH BALANCED NATIONAL GROWTH
AND DEVELOPMENT SHALL EVOLVE.

ASSOCIATED WITH THIS OFFICE WOULD BE A COUNCIL ON BALANCED
NATIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT. THE COUNCIL WOULD BE
MADE UP OF THE HEADS OF EACH OF THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS
AND AGENCIES ADMINISTERING PROGRAMS HAVING AN IMPACT ON
NATIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

CABINET SECRETARIES, REGULATORY COMMISSION CHAIRMEN AND
OTHER TOP-LEVEL OFFICERS WOULD BE INCLUDED. THE COUNCIL WILL
BE A FOCAL POINT FOR PULLING TOGETHER FEDERAL RESOURCES AND
PROGRAMS.

of Balanced Nat. Growth
THE OFFICE WOULD BE DIRECTLY LINKED TO STATE AND LOCAL
PLANNING AGENCIES THROUGH A SYSTEM OF REGIONAL OFFICES, AND
WOULD ADMINISTER ALL FEDERAL PLANNING AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE
PROGRAMS.

THE OFFICE WOULD EVALUATE THE BUDGET REQUESTS OF
FEDERAL AGENCIES ^{in order} TO IDENTIFY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON
BUDGETS AND PROGRAMS AFFECTING NATIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT
POLICY GOALS, AND IT WOULD SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT ^{to Congress} ON NATIONAL
GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT -- NOT JUST URBAN OR RURAL --
AND WOULD CONTINUALLY MONITOR STATE AND LOCAL GROWTH TRENDS
AND COLLECT AND DISSEMINATE IMPORTANT DATA.

422 / SECOND, THE BILL WOULD ESTABLISH MULTI-STATE REGIONAL
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONS. THE COMMISSIONS
WOULD BE THE MECHANISM FOR INVOLVING ELECTED OFFICIALS
OF THE STATES, BOTH GOVERNORS AND STATE LEGISLATORS, AND
PRESIDENTIALLY APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES FOR EACH STATE,

IN THE NATIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND DECISION-
MAKING PROCESS.

#3 L A THIRD FEATURE OF THIS LEGISLATION IS THE PROVISION FOR
CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT IN THE FEDERAL, REGIONAL, AND STATE
PLANNING PROCESS. A NATIONAL CITIZENS COUNCIL ON THE AMERICAN
FUTURE WOULD BE CREATED. AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SIMILAR
COUNCILS AT THE REGIONAL AND STATE LEVELS WOULD BE ENCOURAGED,
TO ADVISE THE FEDERAL OFFICE AND CONGRESS ON PLANNING, GROWTH,
AND DEVELOPMENT POLICIES.

#4 L IN CONGRESS, THE BILL WOULD ESTABLISH A JOINT CONGRESSIONAL
COMMITTEE ON BALANCED NATIONAL GROWTH, AND A CONGRESSIONAL
OFFICE OF POLICY AND PLANNING.

L THE OFFICE WOULD BE THE CONGRESSIONAL COUNTERPART OF THE
OFFICE OF BALANCED NATIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE
EXECUTIVE BRANCH. IT WOULD PROVIDE THE NATIONAL LEGISLATURE
WITH THE EXPERT POLICY-MAKING COUNSEL NEEDED FOR ENLIGHTENED
LAWMAKING.

L THE JOINT COMMITTEE WOULD BE IN CHARGE OF REVIEWING, WITH
THE ADVICE AND COUNSEL OF THE CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE, ALL
PROPOSED LEGISLATION AFFECTING BALANCED NATIONAL GROWTH
DEVELOPMENT, AND WOULD MAKE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS
TO ALL STANDING COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS
WOULD BE BASED UPON THE JOINT COMMITTEE'S COMPREHENSIVE
ASSESSMENT OF ESSENTIAL NATIONAL PRIORITIES.

↳ TO UNDERTAKE COMPREHENSIVE AND LONG-RANGE RESEARCH GEARED
TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY, THE BILL PROPOSES
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FOUNDATION ON THE AMERICAN FUTURE,
AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY WITH SPECIFIED POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

↳ THE FOUNDATION WOULD PREPARE AND PURSUE AN ANNUAL RESEARCH
AGENDA ITS REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE MADE
AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

↳ FINALLY, IN AN EFFORT TO CHART THE NATION'S PRESENT
AND FUTURE GROWTH TRENDS, THE BILL ESTABLISHES AN AGENCY
FOR POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS WITHIN THE BUREAU
OF THE CENSUS.

h THE AGENCY WOULD CONSOLIDATE AND EXPAND EXISTING FEDERAL
CENSUS EFFORTS. MOST IMPORTANT, IT WOULD WEIGH THE IMPACT
OF VARIOUS LEVELS AND DISTRIBUTIONS OF POPULATION IN THE
NATION. IT WOULD PROJECT REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCH THINGS AS
EDUCATION FACILITIES, NEW HOUSING, EXPANDED PUBLIC FACILITIES,
AND COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMS FOR THE ELDERLY.

THESE ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BILL AND WHAT IT IS
INTENDED TO ACCOMPLISH. I DO NOT SUGGEST THAT IT IS THE
FINAL ANSWER. RATHER, I VIEW THIS BILL AS A MAJOR BEGINNING.
IT GOES FAR BEYOND ANYTHING ON THE BOOKS TODAY, TOWARD
ESTABLISHING AN ORDERLY, SYSTEMATIC, COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK
FOR DEVISING, COORDINATING AND CARRYING OUT POLICIES OF
BALANCED NATIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

THE PROFESSIONALS REPRESENTED HERE TODAY MAY BE THE MOST IMPORTANT GROUP IN TODAY'S SOCIETY. YOU MAY HOLD THE KEY TO INSURING THAT WE HAVE A LIVABLE SOCIETY TOMORROW. AND THE CONFERENCE YOU HOLD HERE THIS WEEK COULD BE THE MOST IMPORTANT YOU HAVE HELD IN YOUR EXISTENCE.

I HOPE THAT THE CONGRESS WILL UNDERTAKE ITS OWN SERIOUS "CONFERENCE" ON THESE VITAL ISSUES, AND WILL MOVE TO EARLY CONSIDERATION OF THE BALANCED NATIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT, SO THAT WE CAN ALL GO TO WORK ON THE ISSUES IT DEALS WITH -- ISSUES THAT AFFECT OUR NATIONAL SURVIVAL.

✓ BUT IF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT CALL FOR A UNIFIED
APPROACH TO A PROBLEM THAT IS NATIONAL IN SCOPE, THEN THE
POLITICAL APPROACH TO THIS MEASURE MUST ALSO BE OF A UNIFIED
NATIONAL CHARACTER ← PAROCHIAL AND PROVINCIAL BICKERING CANNOT
BE PERMITTED TO STAND IN THE WAY OF ACTION ON ISSUES SO VITAL
TO ALL AMERICANS.

✓ IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT CITY AND COUNTRY STOP SHOOTING ONE
ANOTHER DOWN AND BEGIN WORKING TOGETHER -- BECAUSE RURAL AND
URBAN AMERICA ARE INSEPARABLY TIED TOGETHER.

✓ WE ARE NOT TALKING ABOUT A CITY PROBLEM OR A RURAL PROBLEM.

✓ IT IS NOT A LIBERAL ISSUE NOR A CONSERVATIVE ISSUE. IT IS
NOT NORTHERN, SOUTHERN, EASTERN OR WESTERN. IT IS THE VERY
LIFE OF OUR COUNTRY.

THIS IS SOMETHING WE MUST FACE TOGETHER AS AMERICANS. THE
ISSUE AT HAND IS THE NATION'S DESTINY.

IN THIS WAY WE CAN CARRY FORWARD THE PIONEER SPIRIT WHICH
MADE OUR NATION GREAT. WE CAN BUILD AN AMERICA THAT MAY BE
SEEN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AS CARL SANDBURG SAW US:

"I SEE AMERICA, NOT IN THE SETTING SUN OF A
BLACK NIGHT OF DESPAIR AHEAD OF US, I SEE AMERICA
IN THE CRIMSON LIGHT OF A RISING SUN, FRESH FROM THE
BURNING, CREATIVE HAND OF GOD. I SEE GREAT DAYS AHEAD,
GREAT DAYS POSSIBLE TO MEN AND WOMEN OF WILL AND VISION."

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