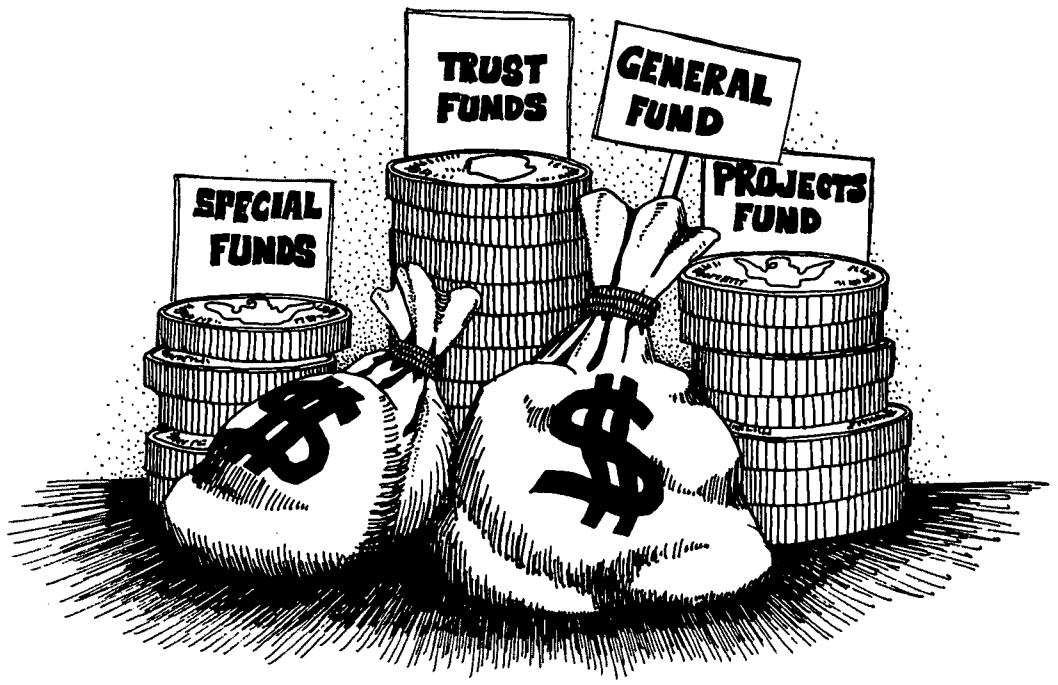
VOL. 8, NO. 4 April, 1980

FOCUS

A GUIDE TO:

MUNICIPAL BUDGETING



Joint Center for Political Studies

Perspective

(This month's Perspective is excerpted from the remarks of JCPS President Eddie N. Williams on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Joint Center for Political Studies.)

As we enter the decade of the 80s, we appear to be on the verge of another great shift in civil rights emphasis—from politics to economic advancement.

This new thrust was inevitable. Our dreams of economic equality have been deferred too long. Too many have received too few of the fruits of our society.

What is especially challenging—perhaps troubling—in this decade is the inevitable convergence of minorities' rising economic expectations and of the nation's declining economy. Clearly there are some danger zones ahead.

The economic problems are indeed formidable. Yet, all too often these problems are used as a smoke screen by those who oppose affirmative action and by some public officials who refuse to allocate resources fairly.

Even in a climate of economic stringency, there is no immutable law that says that budget expenditures—whatever their level—should not be used to benefit those in greatest need. Nor is it written that budget cuts—whatever their reason—should automatically be made in programs that meet the pressing needs of minorities and the poor.

The only law that exists in the law of reason and politics which sets forth the process and the procedures for influencing who gets what, when and how.

The climate and circumstances of the 80s will require of minorities greater involvement in the budget process, the public policy process, and the political process.

As the civil rights thrust shifts in the 1980s, the Joint Center plans to adjust its programs accordingly. In addition to providing non-partisan assistance to elected and appointed officials and otherwise encouraging minority political participation, we plan new programs in the field of policy analysis. We are convinced that future progress for blacks and other minorities will depend, in large measure, on their ability to help conceptualize, enact and implement public policies which are sensitive to their needs.

Now that we have a political platform, we must use it constructively to share our own thoughts on what can be done to improve our economic condition.

For example, we need to examine the extent to which greater black entrepreneurship can contribute to urban and rural development and redevelopment.

The growing convergence between domestic and international affairs requires us to devote much more attention to foreign policy issues. Foreign trade and commerce, energy, economic assistance programs, national security issues, all directly affect blacks and other minorities, whether in terms of employment, business opportunities, or otherwise improving our economic position in society.

The competition for federal grant funds—today over $80 billion—not to mention state and local allocations, is intense and becomes increasingly so as the economy shrinks, and spending is reduced. This competition is the essence of American politics, and we must become more competitive in order to get our fair share.

Therefore, we need to examine the impact of minority political participation on the distribution of public benefits, especially at the local level.

In addition we must continue and expand the Joint Center's role as a bridging agent, an organization which brings diverse groups and individuals together to form a critical mass for social change. In the decade of the 80s the efforts of broad-based coalitions, including some persons and groups not normally considered to be part of the political structure, will be urgently needed.

Regardless of how one approaches the problems of the 80s, all roads lead to the need for increased political participation and the need for increased cooperation across all boundaries which tend to divide us.

Eddie N. Williams
President

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Full Employment With a Different Focus

by Gar Alperovitz and Jeff Faux

(Gar Alperovitz and Jeff Faux are co-directors of the National Center for Economic Alternatives, which is developing proposals for restructuring the United States economy.)

Since the Employment Act of 1946, the United States has defined economic objectives in strikingly national terms.

We have become so used to the national focus that we rarely notice that the worthy objective embodied in the term "full employment" is a very generalized abstraction. It implies a statistical average that often fails to address the wide disparity in economic conditions among American localities.

We live in communities, not continents—a reality made statistically evident by comparing the most recent data on local unemployment to the current national unemployment rate. A 5.8 percent unemployment rate for the United States as a whole cannot reflect the posture of a Johnstown, Pennsylvania, where the rate was 9 percent last November, or a Decatur, Illinois, with 10.9 percent unemployment.

Elsewhere, in boom towns of the South and West, the problem is excessive growth and the burdens of more greatly taxing individuals and local resources. November, 1979, unemployment in Oklahoma City was 2.9 percent, while in the state of Wyoming 3 percent of the workforce was unemployed.

Were we to achieve national "full employment," declining communities in the Northeast, upper Midwest and elsewhere might benefit very little. Federal funding formulas that target funds to areas would shut down the flow of funds long before localities in distress received adequate relief. Federal policies which seek to stimulate growth and investment through general tax reductions would continue to encourage businesses to invest *out* of such areas.

As a way out of this dilemma, we suggest the substitution of the goal of community full employment for the goal of national full employment in order to sharpen the meaning and focus of the national goal. Our national unemployment target would then become an aggregate of achievements built from the locality up, instead of the reverse, as is now the case.

The precise definition of community full employment is debatable. As a beginning point, we might agree with the National League of Cities formulation which applies the Humphrey-Hawkins goal of 4 percent unemployment by 1983 to the specific towns and cities of the nation.

Setting local criteria for national economic goals would not mean that the economy would be frozen in the patterns of the later 1970s. A floor below which local unemployment could not be allowed to sink is perfectly consistent with population shifts. There are jobs—and there are good jobs that will tempt people to move. When business is booming in Phoenix and wages are rising, people in Detroit would be unconstrained in relocating. But under a policy of community full employment they would not be forced—by plant closings or local economic deterioration—to do so.

Making the health of local economies a priority will require us to bring "jobs to the people," as some analysts put it. Ending the migratory chase after the increasingly elusive American dream, may be the key to fashioning that dream into a reality by unlocking the economic potential of 26 million Americans who currently do not work, but wish to work. So-called locational tax incentives to encourage businesses to invest in specific areas are one way to attempt to do this—although an exceeding inefficient one according to government studies.

Geographic targeting of public procurement is an approach with greater promise. The Congressional Budget Office has already shown that a policy of accelerated spending on public goods would be a much less wasteful way of stimulating the overall economy than tax reductions. If accelerated spending were combined with targeting of procurement to localities in distress, we could create a new policy instrument that could help to stabilize local markets without fueling inflation.

Fully stabilizing the economies of local communities would also require significant, targeted investment in needed public goods such as rails, mass transit, pollution control and solar energy installations. We already know that the nation will have to spend money for all of these over the coming years because of the imperatives of scarce energy and other resources. These investments should be done in an accelerated way that helps communities now in distress and in turn enables these communities to rally behind national goals essential to the U.S. position in international trade in the 1980s.

The current obsession with containing government spending in the illusory hope that this alone can control inflation, presents a major obstacle to the plan we are proposing. But we must realize that we can no longer afford the luxury of symbolic action; our loss of productivity to minus levels in the face of major gains in productivity and market power by our trade competitiors, such as Japan, constitute a problem much more profound than we seem now prepared to face.

Fortunately, because targeting jobs in specific depressed towns and cities is inherently less inflationary than generalized stimulative policies, community full employment presents a means of breaking the current stalemate that blocks vitally needed investment for the sake of trimming a few tenths of a percent from the inflation rate. We can coordinate our public investments with a reindustrialization policy that begins with a community stabilization, i.e., full employment focus in a manner that improves productivity and reduces our dependency on foreign energy sources.

Despite the apparent fact that it will not be easy to conform overall economic policy to local tax needs, mayors, local taxpayers, local unions, small businesses, local environmental activists and many others have begun to recognize that they have much to gain by tackling such a project.

This grouping includes the vast majority of Americans. Were the members of this majority able to seize the initiative of economic matters, the common local needs of our communities—rather than the statistical continental averages—might begin to define national priorities in a plan that makes communities and the Federal government accountable for the future of the nation.

A Guide To Municipal Budgeting

by Philip Dearborn

(Editor's note: Of all the problems that face local elected black officials, the local budget making process is among the most complex. It is also one of the most important tools for bringing about responsible local government. In recognition of these factors, the Joint Center for Political Studies has for several years offered training and technical assistance on municipal budgeting to elected officials. At our training sessions officials have consistently expressed the need for a simplified description of the municipal budget making process. The following article, extracted from a speech by Philip Dearborn, Vice President of the Greater Washington Research Center, describes the budget making process in layman's terms and should be useful both to public officials and concerned citizens. Copyright (c) 1974, League of Women Voter's Education Fund. Reprinted with permission.)

If you want to understand anything about a local or state government budget, it helps to approach the task armed with some basic understandings about how its finances work.

One key to such understanding is fund accounting. Though it is not a simple concept, it is one you simply must grasp if you are going to understand local government finance. Since fund accouting is essentially separating and tracking revenue, let's review, first, where most governments get their money.

- *Taxes.* At the local level funds come primarily from property taxes, but also come from income and sales taxes to some extent. At the state level they come heavily from income and sales taxes. At both levels they come from such miscellaneous sources as admissions taxes, gasoline taxes, auto registration taxes.
- *Fees, permits, fines.* This category includes all of the miscellaneous aggravations that most governments impose, plus utility charges for services rendered (e.g., sewer, water and electric rates).
- *Sales of bonds and (to some extent) notes.*
- *Federal aid and in the case of local units from state aid.*

Why is the source of these revenues so important? It's important because very often the source controls the use. For instance, gas tax and automobile registration revenues *must* be used for highways, bridges and the like. Governments that charge for water, sewer service or electricity generally *must* use the revenues to support the operation of the water works, the sewer system and electric utilities, respectively. Proceeds from bond sales *must*, as a rule, be used for capital exependitures. And, of course, state and federal grants are given for very specific purposes; the mental health grant *must* be used for mental health services, and so on.

To keep these revenues separate, they are segregated into funds. There are several categories of funds.

The General Tax Fund is by far the most important one to review because it is the one fund without some strings attached. Into it go all revenues not predestined for a specific purpose—dollars that can be used for anything that is legally permitted by the government.

Special revenue funds generally contain monies earmarked for some specific purpose—gas tax revenues for highway maintenance or hotel tax revenues for promotional expenses.

Debt service funds contain money restricted solely to paying interest and principal on debts contracted by issuing bonds or notes.

Capital project funds generally include a separate fund for the proceeds from each bond issue for a capital improvement.

Enterprise funds contain utility revenues, airport revenues and other revenues from self-supporting operations. Some of these funds have large amounts in them, and they are often the largest funds in the government.

Trust and agency funds tend to be very technical and limited and are usually of no great significance, except from an accounting standpoint. However, a good many people have recently been taking a special interest in what happens to one kind of trust fund money—that which is coming to local and state governments from federal revenue sharing.

What does all this mean? It means that a substantial amount of most governments' operations, except for those paid out of the General Fund, is controlled more by revenues than by need.

It also means that in municipal (and state) accounting there has to be this phenomenon called fund accounting, separating money by source so that it can't be intermingled and will be spent only for its destined purpose. Good practice in municipal accounting says it cannot be combined because it would present a deceptive appearance. For instance, if $3 million in bond proceeds for a capital improvement project and $1 million in revenues from taxes were lumped together, it would look as if the government had $4 million available to hire, say, another 200 policemen or firemen. But, of course, the fact is that the bond funds must go for capital expenditures and only the $1 million in tax revenues is available for salaries.

On the negative side, using fund accounting means that a city or state government cannot easily find in one place total revenues or total expenditures—and neither can the concerned citizen. There is no such information for a very simple reason: the funds are separate, unrelated entities. Utopia in municipal finance might be doing away with all earmarkings and using any money for any purpose, but that's clearly impractical—politically or otherwise. These funds are set up, not to make it hard for citizens to figure out what's going on, but because no one has yet devised any other way to keep monies separated and available for their designated purposes.

Taking the Mystery out of Budget Making

In the real world, there is no such thing as zero-base budgeting—that is, projecting income and outgo afresh as if a department or service had never before existed. Political leaders can't drastically cut or abolish services, and many obligations, such as for debt service, are, in fact, legally required.

So predictable are most budgets that the budget specialists can—and usually do—project quite accurately even before consulting other officials. The

net effect is that the area of maneuver for budget watchers—or for citizens who want some changes—is quite constricted.

All these points require a little elaboration.

Debt service has to be paid or the government's credit will be ruined.

The existing payroll for employees has to be met. Sometimes staff is trimmed by attrition—not replacing those who retire or leave of their own accord—but seldom by wholesale layoffs, except in extreme cases. It just isn't politically practical to lay off employees in local government.

Utility costs have to be paid: electricity for street and traffic lights, sewage treatment and water treatment plants, telephones and heat for government offices.

Contractual fringe benefits have to be paid—a very big item in a lot of budgets with up to 15 percent of total budgets going for retirement in many cities.

Together these outlays add up to 85-90 percent of total revenues, and in some of the restricted funds, 100 percent may be required. These "musts" leave little elbow room for considering new programs or even for making changes in existing ones.

Incremental increases are also a part of the almost automatic side of budget making. Inflation takes its bite each year, in higher costs for equipment, rent, contract services of all sorts. Employee costs grow as wages increase and employee benefits expand.

Analyzing a budget

In reviewing a budget, there are a few simple rules. In outlining them, let's assume that it is a proposed budget for the coming fiscal year that is the target of your interest.

Check the summary of revenues in the General Fund first. It should show taxes, fines, licenses and so on. What you want to pinpoint is any significant increase or decrease compared to revenues for a previous year.

Look for a column of actual revenues from a previous year. Without an actual column, you will be at sea. "Increase," "decrease" and "significant" have no meaning without that baseline. If no actual column is provided in the proposed budget, protest vigorously, because without it there is no effective way to review the budget. You are at the mercy of whoever prepared it. There is no reason why any budget should ever lack an actual colmun to provide an anchor for analysis.

Compare estimated and actual revenues for the most recent year available. It involves work, but it can be very revealing. See how closely the two agree. This comparison will give you some idea of where games have been played in the past with the revenue estimates and where they may be played in the proposed budget.

Review the property tax calculations. It is a somewhat complex process, but good budgets will show how to calculate revenues from property taxes.

Look at the summary of expenditures portion of the buget. Here, again, look for items that are changing more than expected.

Pay attention to incremental increases. Most budgets show an annual, expectable incremental increase of about 6 percent. Sometimes it will be higher in a fast-growing area like Fairfax County, Virginia, for instance. Sometimes it will be lower.

There are a few characteristics of incremental changes that budget-watchers would do well to note. First of all, decisions on the use of incremental funds frequently occur outside the budget cycle, by virtue of commitments made during the year for pay raises and new or improved programs to meet emerging needs. Secondly, incremental changes emphasize visibility items. Whether it is street resurfacing or additional police on the beat or a social program, incremental changes usually must have visibility in the community.

Red-check any item that is up 15 or 20 percent or down 5-10 percent, and look into it further. Don't be deceived by the ones that are going down. They are sometimes more revealing than the items that are going up because often it's not a true decrease. More frequently it's masking some kind of change, such as a transfer of personnel to another department or operation.

Look for contingency or reserve fund allocations. They should show up in the summary of expenditures.

Again, compare the previous year's budget to the previous year's actual, if possible. Though probably less important than on the revenue side, it will give you an indicator about how accurate the budget has been in previous years.

Look for transfers to and from other funds—payments from the revenue fund into the General Fund, payments from the General Fund to capital funds and to other funds.

After you have analyzed the General Fund thoroughly, you should turn your attention to the other important funds.

Review the debt service fund quite carefully. There should be a documentation of how they calculated the requirements for debts.

Budget watchers would do well to cast a critical eye over the revenue sharing trust fund.

Make sure the estimated receipts are budgeted accurately. Money in the revenue sharing trust fund can go three ways:

—it can go to direct expenditures;

—it can be transferred to the General Fund where it will be used for police or fire or other purposes and lose its identity as revenue sharing funds; or

—it can be transferred to another restricted fund where it can be used for the purpose of that fund. That is called a transfer between restricted funds and is perfectly legal. Look at each fund that has revenue sharing monies involved in it.

If the revenue sharing fund is not budgeted, that is, if you look in the budget and don't find an item titled Revenue Sharing Fund, then look for an explanation. It should be given.

In the end, your effectiveness will depend not just on your wanting a worthwhile program or a valid change, but on your ability to demonstrate benefits—political or otherwise—and feasibility. Some great ideas are put forth very vigorously but are not feasible, and therefore do not get into the budget.

The Early Primaries: The Black Vote

by Michael Goldstein and Leslie Walker

(Dr. Goldstein is JCPS Associate Director of Research. Leslie Walker is a JCPS research associate.)

Despite national polls showing that most blacks favor Senator Edward Kennedy over President Carter, the President won a solid majority of black votes in four major presidential primaries this year.

A Joint Center analysis of over 120,000 votes cast in predominantly (90 percent or more) black sample units in Florida, Alabama, Illinois and New York shows that black voters played a prominent role in the outcome of the Democratic presidential primaries in each of these states. While black voters in Florida, Alabama, and Illinois were part of the President's winning coalition, they nevertheless gave Sen. Kennedy a greater share of their votes than many other groups. In each of the four states, blacks made up a sizeable proportion of the total Kennedy vote.

In the Republican presidential primaries in Florida, Alabama, and New York, black votes were too few to analyze or were cast for delegates rather than candidates. However, in Illinois a majority of black Republicans supported Rep. John Anderson.

Florida

In the March 11 Florida Democratic primary, President Carter won 67.4 percent of the black vote compared to 29.6 percent for Sen. Kennedy and 1.2 percent for California Gov. Jerry Brown. The overall vote in Florida was 60.7 percent for Carter, 23.2 percent for Kennedy, and 4.9 percent for Brown. While nearly 10 percent of all Democratic voters marked the "no preference" option on the ballot, blacks virtually ignored this option. Thus, the level of their support for both Carter and Kennedy was higher than for the state as a whole.

In Florida's metropolitan areas, President Carter received 66.9 percent of the black vote compared to 30.1 percent for Sen. Kennedy. In non-metropolitan areas, Carter won 69.4 percent and Kennedy won 27.8 percent.

President Carter received strong support in Florida's low-income black communities. In metropolitan communities where 40 percent or more of the residents were below the poverty level, the vote was 69.7 percent for Carter and 27.7 percent for Kennedy. Sen. Kennedy did slightly better in black communities where 20 percent or fewer residents were below the poverty level; 32.1 percent compared to 64.9 percent for Carter.

Alabama

In the March 11 Alabama Democratic primary, President Carter received 81.4 of the total vote compared to 13.4 percent for Sen. Kennedy and 4 percent for Gov. Brown. Although figures on the statewide black vote in Alabama were not available at press time, the Joint Center projects the following results: Carter, 67 percent; Kennedy 29 percent; and Brown 3 percent.

In Alabama's metropolitan areas, President Carter received 66.9 percent of the black vote while Sen. Kennedy and Gov. Brown won 27 percent and 5.3 percent respectively. In non-metropolitan areas the votes were: 67.4 percent for Carter, 31.6 percent for Kennedy, and virtually no black votes for Brown.

Illinois

President Carter won the March 18 Illinois Democratic primary by taking 65.1 percent of all votes and 59.4 percent of black votes. Kennedy, faring better than in Florida and Alabama, won 30 percent of the total vote and 33.9 percent of the black vote. For Brown the figures were 3.3 percent overall and 3.9 percent among blacks. Blacks in metropolitan areas gave Carter 58 percent and Kennedy 34.2 percent of their votes while those in suburban areas gave Carter 66.5 percent and Kennedy 32.1 percent of their votes.

Further analysis of the black vote in suburban and downstate Illinois suggests that President Carter received greater support in the more affluent black communities than in low-income areas, a pattern different from that found in Florida. In metropolitan areas outside the city of Chicago, blacks living in communities where 20 percent or fewer of the residents were below the poverty level gave Carter 66.1 percent of their votes compared to 54.2 percent in areas where the poverty level was 40 percent or greater.

On the other hand, Sen. Kennedy fared much better in the state's low-income areas, taking 42.9 percent of black votes compared to 31.7 percent in more affluent areas. In low-income areas in Florida, however, Kennedy, as already noted, won only 27.7 percent of black votes.

There is not yet sufficient evidence to show whether this pattern also held for the city of Chicago where there were several fiercely contested local races.

In the Illinois Republican primary Rep. John Anderson, a native of the state, won 59.2 percent of black GOP votes while Ronald Reagan won 17.2 percent and George Bush won 9.4 percent. The remaining 14 percent of the votes was split among the other Republican candidates on the ballot.

New York

In the March 25 New York Democratic primary, Sen. Kennedy got 48 percent of the black vote on his way to winning his first primary outside of Massachusetts. However, President Carter won 52 percent of the black vote in his losing cause.

In a closely contested fight for the New York black vote, Carter and Kennedy virtually split the vote in suburban areas, but Carter won 52.5 percent in metropolitan (central city) areas compared to 47.5 percent for Kennedy.

In general the turnout of registered black voters was slightly lower than for all registered voters in Florida, Alabama, and New York. In Illinois, however, black turnout was about the same for the state as a whole, and turnout for both blacks and whites was higher than in the 1976 primary.

Telescope

President's Budget Cut Proposals Draw CBC and Union Fire

President Carter's plans to slash the federal budget as a means to help reduce inflation have drawn sharp criticism from the Congressional Black Caucus and also from organized labor.

Commenting on the President's new budget, which would cut funding for many social welfare and unemployment programs and defer the funding of earlier proposals, the CBC said, "This Caucus must disassociate itself from the Democratic administration and Democratic leadership in the House on the issue of the budget for the fiscal year 1981."

"The Congressional Black Caucus does not oppose the concept of a balanced budget. But we do oppose balancing the budget on the backs of black people, the poor, other minorities, senior citizens and children."

The President's anti-inflation program announced on March 14 would cut $14 billion from his January budget proposal to the Congress. Affected would be programs in the areas of child health, welfare reform, Medicaid-Medicare expansion and the Comprehensive Employment Training Act. House and Senate budget proposals closely parrallel the President's.

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland said that the fight against inflation "must be carried on with a realistic sense of this nation's priorities."

"Rather than reduce the federal government's commitment to the health and welfare of its citizens," Kirkland said, "the Congress should improve funding for programs that maintain the economic and social fabric of this society."

"When it comes to budget balancing," Kirkland concluded, "it is always the working people of the economic spectrum that is expected to succumb for the benefit of the nation as a whole."

In the aftermath of the presidential and congressional committee action on the budget, Rep. Parren Mitchell (D-Md.), a former member of the House Budget Committee and a current member of the Joint Economic Committee, submitted to the House what he described as a "Human Needs Amendment." His amendment provides for an additional $5.1-billion for programs targeted to the elderly; youth training and employment; education; low-income housing and fiscal assistance to the cities.

The Mitchell amendment addresses inflation by re-evaluating tax policy to rid it of inflationary and non-productive tax expenditures. It provides a tax cut targeted to small businesses. This cut has the expressed intent of increasing labor productivity through training, incentives, and capital productivity. The amendment also cancels the scheduled increase in the Social Security tax rate.

Black State Legislators Meet With President Carter

A delegation of 24 black state legislators from 13 states met with President Carter last month to outline their concerns in various social and economic policy areas.

The legislators, members of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBC/SL), called for support of methods to develop and implement a plan to adjust any undercount in the 1980 census in order to assure equitable black political representation and fair allocation of federal funds to black communities.

They voiced concern over the Administration's proposed delay in fulfilling the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act. The legislators told the President that if the Selective Service System is revitalized, its composition both nationally and locally must ensure minority participation at all levels. The legislators also urged support for a minority set-aside program for grants and contracts to nonprofit resource organizations.

Maryland State Senator Clarence Mitchell, president of NBC/SL also asked that the President consider black legislators when selecting candidates for various presidential advisory boards and commissions.

Association of Blacks in Energy Names New Officers for 1980

The American Association of Blacks in Energy has named Rufus W. McKinney, a California gas utility executive, as its new chairman. McKinney, vice president of national public affairs for the Southern California Gas Co., served as first vice chairman of the association since its founding in 1977.

Also named to key posts in the organization were Robert Bates, of the Mobil Oil Corp., first vice chairman; and Luddy Hayden of the Gulf Oil Corp., second vice chairman.

Other officers of the Association include Wayne Smith of the Public Service Company of Colorado, treasurer; Thomas Hart of the Westinghouse Electric Corp., assistant treasurer; James Caldwell of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, secretary; and Geraldine L. Anderson of the Northern Natural Gas Co., assistant secretary.

The Association of Blacks in Energy has over 500 members. Its purpose is to ensure that all black Americans and other minorities are aware of, and participate in, the development of the nation's energy programs and policies.

JCPS Seeks More Data Collectors

The Joint Center is continuing to expand its network of individuals throughout the country who assist in ongoing data collection tasks. Upcoming projects include preparation of the National Roster of Black Elected officials and coverage of the November elections. Participants will be designated Joint Center Associates and will be eligible to receive any Joint Center publication up to $15.00 in value. Anyone interested in participating in this very important project should write: Nancy Crothers, Joint Center for Political Studies, 1426 H Street, N.W., Suite 539, Washington, D.C. 20005, or call 202-638-4477.

Malachi Knowles Named NIAAA Minority Affairs Coordinator

Malachi Knowles has been appointed Minority Affairs Coordinator at the National Institute on Alcohol and Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA) in the Department of Health and Human Services. Knowles formerly served as special assistant to the president of the Joint Center while on detail from the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act.

(Continued on Page 8)

Telescope

(Continued from Page 7)

Joint Center's Annual Dinner Attracts Wide Support

Over 1,000 guests attended the Joint Center's Third Annual Dinner last month to celebrate the organization's 10th anniversary and to honor businessman Earl G. Graves and Rep. Parren J. Mitchell (D-Md.) for their contributions to minority economic progress.

Zbigniew Brzezinski, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, was the keynote speaker. Other participants in the program were George Weissman, chairman of the board of Philip Morris, Inc. and national co-chairman of the Third Annual Dinner; Marc Stepp, vice president of the United Auto Workers, representing UAW President Douglas A. Fraser, who was national dinner co-chairman; Percy E. Sutton, chairman of the board of Inner City Broadcasting Company who served as master of ceremonies; Jessie M. Rattley, vice mayor of Newport News, Virginia, and president of the National League of Cities, who presented the awards to the honorees; Maynard Jackson, mayor of Atlanta, Georgia; Marion S. Barry, Jr., mayor of Washington, D.C.; and Eddie N. Williams, president of the Joint Center for Political Studies.

The Joint Center's Fourth Annual Dinner will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 1981 at the Washington Hilton Hotel. As in past years, this date has been chosen to facilitate participation by the many public officials attending the National League of Cities' Congressional Cities Congress, which will be held March 1-3, 1981.

New JCPS Service Available

Does your community need additional housing? . . . A new sewer line? . . . A health care facility? The Joint Center for Political Studies has an informatiion bank of programs and agencies which provide financial assistance for these and similar projects in the areas of housing, economic/community development, education, health, recreation, and public works. The Joint Center also has information on types of financial assistance provided by states to their local governments. Data on executive and personnel management training programs for local government personnel has also been collected for the 50 states. Address inquiries to Carrie Simpson, Administrative Assistant, Joint Center for Political Studies, 1426 H Street, N.W., Suite 539, Washington, D.C. 20005, or call (202) 638-4477.

1979 Roster Now Available

The 1979 edition of the National Roster of Black Elected Officials is now on sale. To obtain your copy of this valuable reference source, send $19.50 for each copy to: Publications Department, Joint Center for Political Studies, 1426 H Street, N.W., Suite 539, Washington, D.C. 20005. All orders for a single copy must be accompanied by payment. On orders of two copies or more, we will send a bill if you request, but postage and handling charges will be added to the bill.

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