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CITY of SAN DIEGO

MEMORANDUM

FILE NO.:

DATE : March 8, 1976

TO : Councilman Leon Williams

FROM : George Story, Director, Citizens Assistance and Information

SUBJECT: Plans for Lobbying for General Revenue Sharing Re-enactment (N.L.C. Congressional-City Conference March 14-16)

The League of California Cities Revenue Sharing Task Force met in San Francisco on March 5 to review efforts to date and discuss strategy for lobbying for re-enactment at the National League of Cities Congression-City Conference in Washington, D.C., March 14 through 16. Since you will be attending this conference along with Mayor Wilson, I would like to pass some background material and some notes on what was discussed at the meeting, which I attended.

Attached are some materials including the League staff's latest evaluation of the positions of California's two U.S. Senators and 43 members of the House; a draft of an interview sheet to be used in updating the evaluation of legislators' positions; the schedule for the conference itself; some issue papers, and a diagram of the path which the re-enactment legislation will take.

I am also enclosing some other materials relative to our re-enactment campaign, including a letter which Mayor Wilson sent to about 185 local orgainizations and a statement of where General Revenue Sharing funds have been spent locally.

I will of course be available, as will a representative of the Financial Management Department, to discuss aspects of this issue with you prior to the conference to whatever depth you desire.

The Task Force is most concerned that General Revenue Sharing be re-enacted on a multi-year-funding basis, and there is significant opposition to this in the Congress.

Also, there are several formulas for the allocation of the funds, and there is a bill by Rep. Dante Fascell, D-Fla., which could be divisive because of the shifting of the allocations.

The League Task Force feels it is absolutely critical to hold together the coalition which supports re-enactment -- the National League of Cities, the U. S. Conference of Mayors, the National Association of County Officials and the Governors' Conference. An alternative formula could threaten the coalition (because some big cities would benefit to the detriment of smaller ones, in general,

under the Fascell Bill) and, in fact, there is talk that Houston may have its own bill introduced in Congress.

Please note on the schedule that there will be a caucus for California cities' delegates on Monday afternoon (March 15) from 3:30 to 4:00, following the western regional meeting.

The League staff and the legislative representatives of California cities, including Bill Harrington, will be making appointments so that visits to all California Congressmen can be made for the purpose of discussing revenue sharing, along with other matters.

But the National League and the California League have adopted re-enactment of General Revenue Sharing as their top priority for the year, and the Task Force is suggesting that any other business at the conference should take a back seat, if necessary, to the revenue sharing effort.

I hope you have a brief opportunity to discuss the conference with the Mayor, who as President of the League of California Cities has also served as an ex-officio member of the Task Force (which is chaired by Council Member Mary Henderson of Redwood City).

Please let me know if you want to get any further background from me or from Financial Management.

George Story

GS:rg

cc: Mayor Wilson via Coleman Conrad
City Manager, Hugh McKinley