

LEADERSHIP BRIEFING PAPER

Mobilizing Urban Coalitions

Chicago, Illinois--October 17, 1967

I. URBAN LEGISLATION

As first steps toward the implementation of the commitments made at the August Emergency Convocation, the National Steering Committee announced its support for the Emergency Employment Act, co-sponsored in the Senate by Senators Clark and Javits. The Coalition supported the Prouty amendment which would have enlarged the involvement of private companies in training workers for public service jobs. The vote in the Senate was close--47-42. The measure has been referred back to the Senate Labor Committee where Senator Clark has announced he will conduct additional hearings.

The Coalition also announced its support for full funding for the Poverty Program, Model Cities, and Rent Supplements. The Senate has acted by increasing the Administration's appropriation request by \$168 million for the poverty program, restored the appropriations for Rent Supplements which was deleted in the House and has authorized most of the money requested by the Administration for Model Cities. The latter two measures are now in Conference Committee attempting to reconcile considerably lower House appropriations. The House has not yet acted on the Poverty Program.

The Urban Coalition has also supported civil rights fair housing legislation and Co-Chairman Andrew Heiskell has testified before the Senate Committee on behalf of the Administration's proposal.

At the present time, the Steering Committee is studying the new restrictions on the Social Security Program imposed by the House of Representatives.

II. EMPLOYMENT

The Emergency Task Force on Private Employment and Entrepreneurship is in the process of developing programs to implement the Urban Coalition's Statement of Principles, Goals, and Commitments adopted at the Emergency Convocation.

At the present time, the Task Force is working on three specific goals: