

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20575

July, 1966

TO: MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

At the suggestion of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National League of Cities, we are sending to you a copy of a recent report by the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, which will likely be of interest to your locality. This report deals with: Building Codes: A Program for Intergovernmental Reform.

The report concludes that obsolete code requirements; unnecessary diversity of such requirements among local jurisdictions, particularly in metropolitan areas; and inadequate administration and enforcement, taken together, tend to place unwarranted burdens on the technology and economics of building. The Commission calls for a major overhaul and restructuring of intergovernmental responsibilities for building codes to help overcome these and other obstacles to meeting the Nation's housing and commercial construction needs.

To implement some of the key recommendations in the report, the Commission is preparing model State legislation on such matters as State technical assistance to local governments for building code administration, a model State building code, a State construction review agency, and State licensing of building inspectors. These draft bills will be included in the Commission publication, 1967 State Legislative Program, available on request later this summer.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Director

Enclosure