



Manpower folder
Economic Opportunity Atlanta, Inc.

101 Marietta Street Bldg. • Atlanta, Georgia 30303 •

William W. Allison
Executive Administrator

December 18, 1969

Mr. Dave Houser
Arthur Andersen & Company
25 Pryor Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Dave:

In response to our conversation resulting from my previous discussion with Al Bows on the Administration's proposed Manpower Training Act of 1969, I am attaching a draft copy of the Bill along with a summary of the provisions and a cover letter by Secretary of Labor Schultz. I received the draft earlier this year at a one day staffing sponsored by the U. S. Conference of Mayors in Washington as Mayor Allen's representative. Subsequent to this staffing, a committee from the U. S. Conference of Mayors/ U. S. League of Cities held an interview with Secretary of Labor Schultz expressing the concerns of the Mayors of major cities relative to the Bill. I am also attaching copies of two summaries of such concerns resulting from manpower conferences which were sent to City Hall after my return from Washington.

This morning I also had the opportunity to review the brochure prepared on the coordination of manpower efforts. I expressed to Al Bows my feeling that such coordination is not feasible unless done through a political mechanism. I further suggested that the attached Manpower Act would present this opportunity provided that the city government has both the desire and commitment to take on this task and make it work.

A few major concerns I have about the proposed Bill are as follows:

1. That it is absolutely essential that the city governments receive unincumbered grants from the State for manpower

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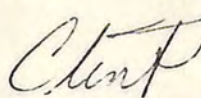
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needs in the SMSAs. Most state governments especially in the south are still basically dominated by rural interest and political power, and based on past experience can not be expected in the immediate future to address themselves voluntarily to urban needs.

2. The formula for computing training allowances under this act is basically the same as under MDTA and is totally inadequate.
3. City governments, however, assuming a manpower role under this Act must be unincumbered in their objective evaluation and selection of agencies and techniques to be utilized in all aspects of manpower programs. This may mean the non selection of some traditional agencies working in this area.
4. The Bill should be carefully watched to insure that an appropriate concerned local government official is selected as Prime Sponsor and that the mechanism for this selection not allow for capricious designation of irrelevant officers.
5. Recently President Nixon indicated that this Bill was on what he termed his "red light" list of legislation. This was interpreted to mean that items on this list would not be pressed for legislative action this congressional year.

I hope these points can serve as a beginning point for our discussion on the relevance of this proposed legislation for the purpose and intent of your work toward realistic coordination and consolidation efforts.

Sincerely,



Clint Rodgers
Deputy Administrator

CR:a

Attachments