

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CITIES
AND THE
SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Report to Members of the
Second Session of the Sixty-seventh General Assembly

State of Iowa
1978

FINAL REPORT
SENATE COUNTY GOVERNMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
AND
HOUSE CITIES SUBCOMMITTEE
ON
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Subcommittee held its first meeting on October 19, 1977. The members of the Subcommittee include:

Senator James Redmond, Co-chairperson
Representative Robert Bina, Co-chairperson
Senator James Briles
Senator Bill Hutchins
Senator Milo Meritt
Senator Ray Taylor
Representative John Clark
Representative Scott Newhard
Representative Clay Spear
Representative Semor Tofte

At its first meeting the Subcommittee discussed the Rural Rehabilitation Program (sections 234.15 through 234.20, Code 1977) and House File 557 with representatives of the Department of Social Services, the Municipal Affairs Division of the Office for Planning and Programming, and the Community Betterment Division of the Iowa Development Commission. The Subcommittee learned that the Program is being used primarily to finance educational loans to rural students. The Program is presently administered by the Department of Social Services. The Subcommittee inquired if the Iowa Development Commission or the Office for Planning and Programming could administer the provisions of House File 557.

At the next meeting held November 18, 1977 the Subcommittee heard the comments of Secretary of Agriculture Robert Lounsberry regarding the Rural Rehabilitation Program. The Secretary desired that the Program be transferred to the Department of Agriculture. The Subcommittee also discussed the administrative provision of House File 557 and heard Representative Fitzgerald explain the purpose of the bill. At that meeting the Subcommittee determined the following:

1. The Rural Rehabilitation Program should be transferred from the Department of Social Services to the Department of Agriculture and the federal references corrected.
2. House File 557 should be amended as follows:
 - a. The Commission should be placed within the Iowa Development Commission for administrative purposes.

- b. The state employees on the Commission should be made nonvoting members and be allowed to send a designee.
- c. Unincorporated communities should be allowed to participate in the Program.
- d. The request for a recommendation by the regional planning agency should be mandatory.
- e. The Commission should be urged to make a fair distribution among eligible cities of different populations.
- f. The appropriation should allow for the salary of "a director".

These proposals have been submitted for drafting.