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In Washington

Human Needs

By U.S. SENATOR HUGH SCOTT

Contrary to what has been printed and aired on radio and television, the Administration is *not* cutting off funds for human needs. Rather, it is reorganizing programs for human needs in an effort to stabilize fiscal spending and to balance the budget. While I would like to see greater spending emphasis in some areas, it is important to recognize that most domestic programs will receive more funds than last year. Had spending gone unchecked, a 15% personal income tax increase would have been necessary.

Before President Johnson died he told a former cabinet member that all of his "Great Society" programs, like any new program in government, should be looked at as a pilot effort. He emphasized that they should be re-evaluated continually with emphasis changed and funds assigned according to need. President Nixon has reappraised many of these "Great Society" programs and has determined that a reasonable, responsible, but tight budget should take precedence. He is committed to holding down spending to prevent a tax increase or a rise in inflation. Moreover, he believes the public wants a balanced budget and voted for that commitment.

The President's thrust to reverse spending from defense to human services is commendable. It represents greater spending for these needs than any previous administration. When President Nixon took office in 1969, 45% of the budget went for defense and 35% was earmarked for human services. Now 47% of the budget will go for human services while only 30% is channeled into defense spending.

Here are the facts:

- 1973 Human Resource outlays are 13% over 1972
- 1974 Human Resource outlays are 8% over 1973
- 1974 Human Resource outlays will be double those of 1969

Office of Economic Opportunity

While the overhead money for Community Action Agencies (\$328 million spread over 908 agencies) is being dropped in FY 1974, all the substantive programs of OEO (migrants, Indians, Community Development, neighborhood health centers, Head Start, Legal Services, etc.) are being transferred to other agencies or set up under new authority, at a funding level equal to or higher than the FY 1973 level.

Head Start

Contrary to erroneous reports, the Head Start Program will not cut back or be eliminated. In fact, the President has requested an increase for Head Start funding in his 1974 budget.

Compensatory Education

Funding for compensatory education, Title I, has not been discontinued. Rather, the President has proposed that the funding for this activity become a part of Education Special Revenue Sharing.

Legal Services

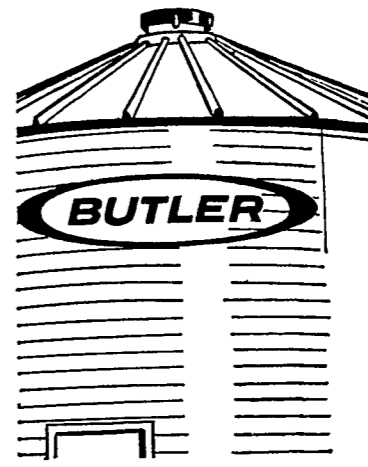
There have been reports that the Legal Services Program has been abolished. In fact for 1974, that program is being provided with a life of its own, at the same level of funding under legislation which the Administration will again submit to Congress.

School Milk Programs

Some reports state that we are ending milk subsidy programs. In fact, we are continuing the subsidy except where it duplicates the subsidized breakfast and lunch programs.

Community Development

During the transition to Urban Community Development Revenue Sharing spending in 1974 for the community development and housing areas will be \$300 million higher than the 1973 level.



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