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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*File
Intergovernmental
Affairs*

May 4, 1981

TO: Penny Eastman
FROM: Maiselle Shortley

I have attached all the info on Rep. Robinson, "Better Budget" materials and Proposition 2½. Bill Robinson was supposed to be here last week for the ALEC meeting but because of the problems on the Budget in the Mass. House he could not leave. I know he still wants a meeting with Rich and his office told me it would only be for a short period of time. He is seeking some sort of support for the "Better Budget" and limited government spending.

I will continue to act as your liaison for this appointment unless you would rather talk directly with him and his office. It is a possibility that he may come down at the end of the week, but as soon as I hear I will call you.

Thanks for all your help. Let me know if you would rather deal directly with his office.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133

WILLIAM G. ROBINSON

Republican Floor Leader

Jon D. Scarborough

Administrative Assistant

727-2375

May 1, 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Office of Public Liason
White House, Room 134
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Thank you for all your help with our erstwhile efforts to get to Washington this week. Representative Robinson has asked me to send the enclosed materials and to explain a bit about the "Better Budget" which represents our current program to cut government spending in Massachusetts.

I am sure you are aware that the voters last fall passed a solid property tax property tax cutting measure called Proposition 2 1/2. Basically it mandates limiting property taxes to 2.5% of the fair market value and sharply reduces automobile excise taxes. The result is that cities and towns must cut their budgets by an average of 15%. Representative Robinson was at the forefront of the Prop. 2 1/2 campaign. Now he is working to see the law responsibly implemented.

Despite solid ~~voter~~ support for the new law, elected officials, particularly the Governor and Democratic Leadership, have responded by ignoring the need for the state to cut its own budget in order to provide adequate local aid to municipalities. In response, Rep. Robinson and a group of Republican representatives decided to offer an alternative budget to the Governor's budget. The result was the enclosed "Better Budget", a full line item document.

The "Better Budget" cuts \$366.2 from the Governor's budget and applies that money to increased local aid and gives a modest but necessary increase to fuel assistance and two other human service accounts.

Though Prop. 2 1/2 does not specifically call for the state to cut its spending, recent polls indicate that this was the voters' intent. Polls also indicate that they want the state to cut, but that they want the waste cut, not essential services -- and they do not want taxes raised. Rep. Robinson's "Better Budget" shows clearly how that can be done. Cuts were made mostly in administrative accounts that have been growing out of control for many years.

This week the Legislature began addressing Prop. 2 1/2. Unfortunately, the solution being proposed is to increase taxes in order to offset revenue losses. Rep. Robinson led the fight to prevent the imposition of any new taxes and was successful in the first vote. This specific matter will be reconsidered on Monday and it is certain that other such proposals are forthcoming.

The combination of the Massachusetts voter surveys and the popular support for the President's economic policies indicates that Rep. Robinson is on the right track. For the past several months he has been traveling throughout Massachusetts taking the ideas of the "Better Budget" and limited government spending on all levels to various audiences.

I have enclosed some news clippings and a brief biography in this packet. Again, thank you. I hope to have an opportunity to meet you in Washington next week. Meanwhile, if I can be of assistance now or in the future, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,



Martha A. Bernard
Press Director
Republican Leadership
Office

MAB:tkh
enclosures



WILLIAM "BILL" ROBINSON
10 SUNSET ROAD
MELROSE, MASSACHUSETTS 02176

MARRIED - WIFE: ELEANOR VITTORINI ROBINSON
CHILDREN: CHRISTINA - age 24
MATTHEW - age 17

1965-Present - Representative, 35th Middlesex District
1978-Present - House Republican Leader

House Republican Leader William G. Robinson (R-Melrose) is known as one of the most dynamic leaders in the Massachusetts Legislature and has earned the reputation as a champion of the taxpayer. Bill has gained the support of many Republicans, Democrats and Independents across the state through his legislative efforts.

Bill entered active political life for the first time in 1964 as a candidate for the Massachusetts House of Representatives, and outpolled two incumbents to win the Melrose seat. The Republican Leadership selected Bill Robinson as Assistant Whip in 1970 and in 1972 promoted him to Whip. Four years later, he was asked to serve as the Assistant Minority Leader and in 1978 was elected by his colleagues as Republican Floor Leader.

His record as a leading legislator includes one of the best roll call attendance scores, with an average of 98.31% for his 16 years of service. Bill Robinson led the drives to ban the Legislative payraise and to recall the illegally adjourned Constitutional Convention, and was one of the few legislators who fought for Proposition 2 1/2. He presently serves on the Committee on Rules and has seen extensive action on legislative committees such as Public Safety, Elections, Banking, Metropolitan Affairs and Urban Affairs.

Bill is a native New Englander, born in Boston and raised in Malden. He was educated in the public and parochial schools of Malden, Boston and New York. His personal ambition and strong sense of community have involved Bill in successful small business ventures and civic organizations, on a local level. He has been an active participant in the Malden and Melrose Chambers of Commerce, Malden Lions, Melrose Sons of Italy, Knights of Columbus, Holy Name Society, United Fund, and is a past chairman of the Melrose City Republican Committee.

Richardson Special Report

Conservatives



A weekly commentary by Senator H.L. "Bill" Richardson (R-Arcadia), State Capitol, Sacramento, Ca. 95814

RR #8 - FEBRUARY 20, 1981

S. O. S.

I spent this last Tuesday morning, February 17, with the President. Although I have known Ronald Reagan for a long time, I was still awed by meeting The President of the United States. I have had dinner at his home, gabbed with him for hours, worked with him on legislative programs and stuck my knees under the same head table with him. For close to 20 years I have known this fine man. However, I still was impressed by having a conference with him as The President in The White House.

Over two hundred years of history and prestige goes with the job and I felt no small feeling of pride to be included in a presidential briefing and to stand when the President entered the room. The weight of the free world rests upon his shoulders and the course this nation takes is steered by his hand. I want to help this man in every way I can.

- more -

There comes a time when there has to be leaders and there has to be followers. There comes a time when your priorities must become secondary to another and you pull on the oars or blow into the sails. In other words, do what is asked of you.

Ronald Reagan is a conservative and so am I. He carried the fight to the opposition and won the right to lead. It is time for all of us hardheaded conservatives to give our opinions when asked, but to keep our opinions and criticisms to a minimum. It is tough to lead if your own friends are arguing over degrees of how we tack into the political and economical storms that lie ahead.

The honeymoon with the Democrats will soon be over and to expect them to help unstructure all of the bureaucracy they created is to ask them to renounce their political birthright.

Ronald Reagan will be in the fight of his life to cut back the bureaucracy and restore fiscal order. The Congress with its ultra-liberal leadership will be savagely trying to dismantle any economic program President Reagan has to offer.

Many of these agencies house the most active political liberals in America, and to dismantle their domain is tantamount to killing their liberal political base. Why, some of these people might have to get a job in the free market . . . heaven forbid!

I am going to keep my naturally negative opinions to myself and work to help the President accomplish his economic goals. I will reserve my acidic tongue for the opposition, and, I will build

callouses from rowing and try not to let my ego be bent when my opinions are not given the credit I think is due.

I believe our beloved nation is in grievous trouble, both domestically and abroad and it is time I asked what small service I can perform for our President in advancing the goals and ideals he has so eloquently stated. It is time to hope for his success and pray to God Almighty to direct his hand.

#

THE FEDERAL REPORT

Panel Got President's Attention

By Pete Earley

Washington Post Staff Writer

After years of being ignored by Congress and nearly everyone else, the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations has finally found someone who can turn its ideas into headlines.

Although he didn't name the commission, President Reagan quoted from one of its reports during his State of the Union message Tuesday, and drew heavily on commission recommendations when he announced his "single, bold stroke" to make government more responsive.

And, quite frankly, the ACIR staff was taking some credit yesterday. "I would like to think that we played some small part in contributing information to the president," the commission's acting director, Carl W. Stenberg, said.

Carol S. Weissert, the commission's information officer, was a bit more direct. Reagan's "trade-off" plan, which would give the federal government responsibility for some programs and make the states responsible for others, was suggested by the commission in the 1960s, she said, and has been pushed by the board for years.

The ACIR was created by Congress in 1959 to monitor the relationship between federal, state and local governments and make recommendations for change; it now has a budget of \$1.6 million and a staff of 35. Under law, the bipartisan commission must include six members of Congress, three executive branch officials (Interior Secretary James G. Watt now serves as chairman), four governors, four mayors, three state legislators, three elected county officials and three private citizens, each appointed for two-year terms. Its former members include Reagan, who served on it in 1970-72 while he was California governor.

Since its creation, the commission has churned out hundreds of reports in support of such programs as fed-

eral revenue sharing and block grants, but much of its advice simply has been ignored by Congress.

ACIR made its biggest splash in 1980, when it released a three-year, 11-volume study of the federal government's role and influence; its recommendations were entitled "An Agenda for American Federalism."

The study blamed Congress for the current state of the federal government and concluded that "contemporary intergovernmental relations have become more pervasive, more intrusive, more unmanageable, more ineffective, more costly, and above all, more unaccountable"—a statement that Reagan quoted directly in his speech. The study also cited figures that Reagan used on the growth of categorical grant programs and described the growth in Federal Register pages as an index of increased regulation.

The study might have gone unnoticed had it not been for the National Governors' Association and National Conference of State Legislatures. Both groups used the study to win a campaign promise from Reagan to appoint a sub-Cabinet-level committee to study the realignment of government power. Reagan appointed an Advisory Committee on Federalism last year.

In October, Richard Williamson, Reagan's assistant for intergovernmental affairs and an ACIR member, told the commission that the president wanted it to give top priority to a more detailed study of trade-offs.

ACIR has finished its study and began mailing it to Congress last week. The 150-page study lists 60 possible combinations of revenue or tax turnbacks and program trade-offs.

"They [trade-offs] always have been an academic issue in the past, something confined to the area of research and teaching and the like, but interest has spread to state and local officials and now the president. It's really remarkable," said Stenberg.

Personnel Summary

Total number of full-time permanent positions.....	61	64	67
Total compensable workyears:			
Full-time equivalent employment.....	220	238	245
Full-time equivalent of overtime and holiday hours.....	6	8	10
Average ES salary.....	\$50,112	\$50,112	\$50,112
Average GS grade.....	14.13	14.14	14.12
Average GS salary.....	\$35,037	\$38,225	\$41,640

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Federal Funds

General and special funds:

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act of September 24, 1959, as amended (73 Stat. 703-706), \$1,998,000 of which not to exceed \$2,500 may be used for meals at Commission meetings.

Note.—The appropriation for this account for 1981 had not been enacted at the time this budget was prepared. The 1981 amounts shown below are based upon a continuing resolution (Public Law 96-536) in effect through June 5, 1981.

Program and Financing (in thousands of dollars)

Identification code	55-0100-0-1-806	1980 actual	1981 est	1982 est
Program by activities:				
Direct program:				
Administrative expenses (total direct program costs, funded).....		1,707	1,857	1,996
Change in selected resources (undelivered orders).....		22		32
Total direct obligations.....		1,729	1,857	2,028
Reimbursable program:				
1. Pilot study (HUD).....		23		
2. Financial management (HUD).....		405	314	
3. Urban policy (HUD).....		50		
4. Compliance project (HUD).....		49		
Total reimbursable program costs, funded.....		527	314	
Change in selected resources (undelivered orders).....		-37	-314	
Total reimbursable obligations.....		490		
10.00 Total obligations.....		2,219	1,857	2,028
Financing:				
Offsetting collections from:				
11.00 Federal funds.....		-465	-27	-27
14.00 Non-Federal sources.....		-29	-3	-3
22.40 Unobligated balance transferred from other accounts.....		-26		
25.00 Unobligated balance lapsing.....		4		
39.00 Budget authority.....		1,704	1,827	1,998
Budget authority:				
40.00 Appropriation.....		1,704	1,750	1,998
44.20 Supplemental for civilian pay raises.....			77	
Relation of obligations to outlays:				
71.00 Obligations incurred, net.....		1,725	1,827	1,998
72.40 Obligated balance, start of year.....		580	565	251
74.40 Obligated balance, end of year.....		-565	-251	-283
77.00 Adjustments in expired accounts.....		-24		
90.00 Outlays, excluding pay raise supplemental.....		1,717	2,066	1,964
91.20 Outlays from civilian pay raise supplemental.....			75	2

* Includes \$26,000 for 1980 transferred from the Consolidated working fund

The Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations is an independent, bipartisan body which attempts to identify and analyze the causes of intergovernmental conflicts and recommends ways of strengthening and improving the American federal system. The 26-member Commission includes representatives of the executive, legislative, and administrative branches of all levels of government—Federal, State, and local—as well as representatives of the general public.

The Commission and its staff examine Federal and State programs having an intergovernmental aspect. Proposed legislation is reviewed to determine its overall effect on the federal system. The Commission also identifies emerging problems of Federal-State-local relations.

The Commission makes recommendations concerning the allocation of responsibilities and revenues among the various levels of government. The recommendations and published reports growing out of the Commission's work are submitted to the executive and legislative branches of Federal, State, and local governments for appropriate action.

Continuing and annual projects of the Commission include the monitoring of the general revenue sharing effort, polling the changing public attitudes on government and taxes, surveying State and local finances, monitoring the legislation of State and local governments, cataloging Federal grants-in-aid, and providing educational and technical assistance to Federal, State, and local governments with regard to Commission recommendations.

Nonrecurring projects currently under Commission study are the assignment of service functions among and between the various levels of government; comparing federalism as practiced in Germany, Australia, Canada, and the United States; payments-in-lieu of taxes on federally owned urban property; the status of local discretionary authority in the 50 States; development of summary information on State aid to distressed communities; and preparation of a catalog of Federal grant programs which are candidates for consolidation.

Appropriations finance the personnel and personnel-related expenses incurred in the basic day-to-day operation of the Commission.

The Commission receives funds from other Federal agencies for special projects carried out by the Commission pursuant to contracts with these agencies. Each contract is charged for a share of the Commission's overhead.

Current research being conducted under interagency contracts with the Department of Housing and Urban Development involves developing and implementing model state legislation on financial management, the assignment of functions among the various levels of government, and state aid to distressed urban areas.

Object Classification (in thousands of dollars)

Identification code	55-0100-0-1-806	1980 actual	1981 est	1982 est
Direct obligations:				
Personnel compensation:				
11.1 Full-time permanent positions.....		1,000	1,107	1,128
11.3 Positions other than full-time permanent.....		3	19	12
11.5 Other personnel compensation.....		5	7	10
11.8 Special personal services payments.....		72	60	70
11.9 Total personnel compensation.....		1,080	1,193	1,220

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS—
Continued

General and special funds—Continued

SALARIES AND EXPENSES—Continued

Object Classification (in thousands of dollars)—Continued

Identification code 55-0100-0-1-806	1980 actual	1981 est.	1982 est.
12.1 Personnel benefits: Civilian.....	89	95	100
Travel and transportation of persons:			
21.0 Staff travel.....	17	20	20
21.0 Commission.....	22	25	25
21.0 Invitational.....	4	9	9
22.0 Transportation of things.....	11	10	15
23.1 Standard level user charges.....	138	144	282
23.2 Communications, utilities, and other rent....	140	177	170
24.0 Printing and reproduction.....	93	68	88
25.0 Other services.....	88	85	70
26.0 Supplies and materials.....	36	22	24
31.0 Equipment.....	11	9	5
99.0 Total direct obligations.....	1,729	1,857	2,028
Reimbursable obligations:			
11.3 Personnel compensation: Positions other than full-time permanent.....	98		
12.1 Personnel benefits: Civilian.....	8		
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons.....	15		
23.2 Communications, utilities, and other rent....	60		
25.0 Other services.....	309		
99.0 Total reimbursable obligations.....	490		
99.9 Total obligations.....	2,219	1,857	2,028

Personnel Summary

Total number of full-time permanent positions.....	35	36	36
Total compensable workyears:			
Full-time equivalent employment.....	40	51	51
Full-time equivalent of overtime and holiday hours.....	(0)	(0)	(0)
Average IR grade.....	12.40	12.60	12.70
Average IR salary.....	\$27,849	\$31,476	\$32,106

Trust Funds

CONTRIBUTIONS

Program and Financing (in thousands of dollars)

Identification code 55-8155-0-7-806	1980 actual	1981 est.	1982 est.
Program by activities:			
Information and other services to State and local governments (total program costs, funded).....	102	139	100
Change in selected resources (undelivered orders).....	3		
10.00 Total obligations.....	105	139	100
Financing:			
14.00 Non-federal sources.....	-9		
17.00 Recovery of prior year obligations.....	-28		
21.40 Unobligated balance available, start of year.....	-64	-69	-30
24.40 Unobligated balance available, end of year..	69	30	30
60.00 Budget authority (appropriation) (permanent, indefinite).....	73	100	100
Relation of obligations to outlays:			
71.00 Obligations incurred, net.....	96	139	100
72.40 Obligated balance, start of year.....	34	9	9
74.40 Obligated balance, end of year.....	-9	-9	-9

78.00 Adjustment in unexpired accounts.....	-28		
90.00 Outlays.....	93	139	100

Contributions from State and local governments and nonprofit organizations are used to strengthen the Commission's clearinghouse, information, and policy education services to State and local governments and to improve intergovernmental coordination and relations. Specific items financed by this account include the Commission's quarterly publication, *Intergovernmental Perspective*; summaries of full Commission reports making up the *In Brief* series of ACIR publications; and reprints of popular out-of-print, but up-to-date, Commission reports.

In 1977, the Commission returned to seeking contributions from State and local governments. The State are responding positively and a goal of \$100,000 has been established for 1981.

Object Classification (in thousands of dollars)

Identification code 55-8155-0-7-806	1980 actual	1981 est.	1982 est.
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons.....	19	20	20
22.0 Transportation of things.....		5	
23.2 Communications, utilities, and other rent....	1		
24.0 Printing and reproduction.....	53	79	5
25.0 Other services.....	31	35	2
31.0 Equipment.....	1		
99.9 Total obligations.....	105	139	100

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

Federal Funds

General and special funds:

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Cochairman and his alternate on the Appalachian Regional Commission and for payment of the Federal share of the administrative expenses of the Commission including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, and hire of passenger motor vehicles, [\$3,192,000] \$3,580,000. (40 U.S.C. 105; Energy and Water Development Appropriation Act, 1981.)

Program and Financing (in thousands of dollars)

Identification code 46-0200-0-1-452	1980 actual	1981 est.	1982 est.
Program by activities:			
1. Federal cochairman and staff.....	498	550	561
2. Administrative expenses.....	2,603	2,838	3,011
10.00 Total program costs, funded—obligations.....	3,101	3,388	3,563
Financing:			
25.00 Unobligated balance lapsing.....	4		
39.00 Budget authority.....	3,105	3,388	3,563
Budget authority:			
40.00 Appropriation.....	3,105	3,192	3,563
44.20 Supplemental for civilian pay raises.....		196	
Relation of obligations to outlays:			
71.00 Obligations incurred, net.....	3,101	3,388	3,563
72.40 Obligated balance, start of year.....	30	54	54
74.40 Obligated balance, end of year.....	-54	-54	-54
90.00 Outlays, excluding pay raise supplemental.....	3,076	3,192	3,563
91.20 Outlays from civilian pay raise supplemental.....		196	

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Private Citizens

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Mary Eleanor Wall, Illinois

Eugene Idenberg, D.C.
Robert B. Hawkins, CA.

Members of the United States Senate

[REDACTED]
William V. Roth, Jr., Delaware
James R. Sasser, Tennessee

D. Durenburger, Minn.

Members of the U.S. House of Representatives

Clarence J. Brown, Jr., Ohio
L. H. Fountain, North Carolina
Charles B. Rangel, New York

Officers of the Executive Branch, Federal Government

[REDACTED]

Sec. J. Watt, DOI
Chairman

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sec. S. Pierce, HUD
R. S. Williamson, Asst. to President on Inter-gov. Aff.

Governors

Bruce Babbitt, Arizona

Lamar Alexander, TN, Vice Chairman
Forest H. James, Jr., Ala.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Richard A. Snelling, Vermont

Mayors

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

M. Hance, Phoenix, AZ.
R. Hatcher, Gary, IN.
J. Inhofe, Tulsa, OK.
J. Riley, Charleston, SC.

State Legislative Leaders

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Richard Hodes, Maj. Leader,
Fla. House
Fred Anderson, CO Senate
Ross Doyen, Pres. KA Senate

Elected County Officials

[REDACTED]

Lynn G. Cutler, [REDACTED] Board of Supervisors, Black Hawk County, Iowa Co. TX.

[REDACTED]

Peter Schabarum
LA. Co.

What is ACIR?

The Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR) was created by the Congress in 1959 to monitor the operation of the American federal system and to recommend improvements. ACIR is a permanent national bipartisan body representing the executive and legislative branches of Federal, state, and local government and the public.

The Commission is composed of 26 members—nine representing the Federal government, 14 representing state and local government, and three representing the public. The President appoints 20—three private citizens and three Federal executive officials directly and four governors, three state legislators, four mayors, and three elected county officials from slates nominated by the National Governors' Conference, the Council of State Governments, the National League of Cities/U.S. Conference of Mayors, and the National Association of Counties. The three Senators are chosen by the President of the Senate and the three Congressmen by the Speaker of the House.

Each Commission member serves a two year term and may be reappointed.

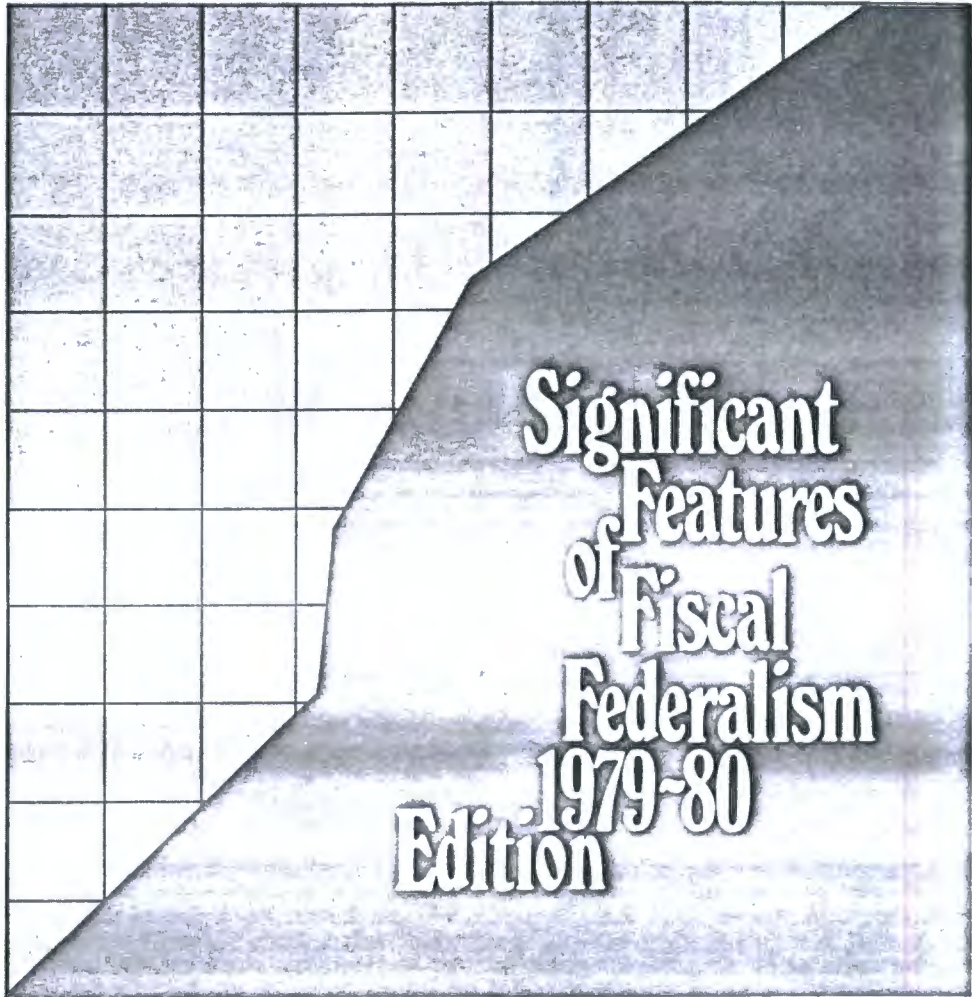
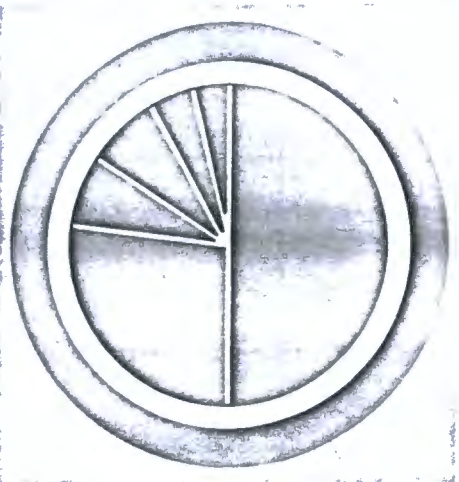
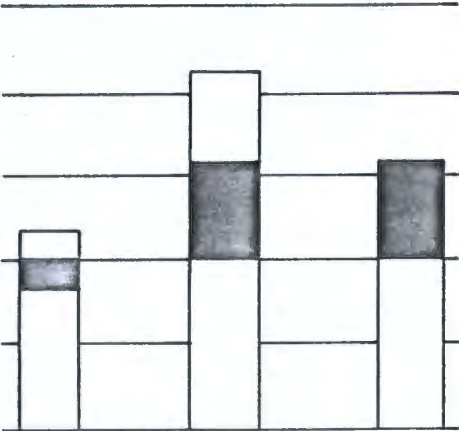
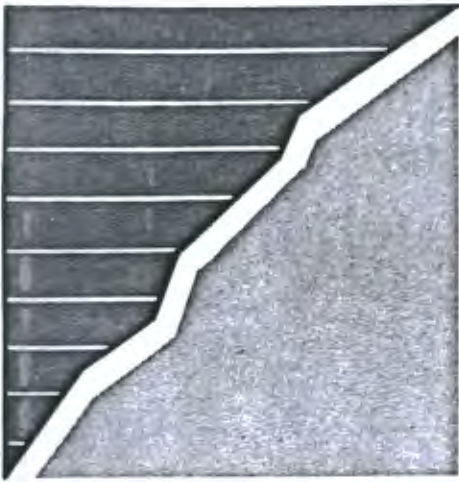
As a continuing body, the Commission approaches its work by addressing itself to specific issues and problems, the resolution of which would produce improved cooperation among the levels of government and more effective functioning of the federal system. In addition to dealing with the all important functional and structural relationships among the various governments, the Commission has also extensively studied critical stresses currently being placed on traditional governmental taxing practices. One of the long range efforts of the Commission has been to seek ways to improve Federal, state, and local governmental taxing practices and policies to achieve equitable allocation of resources, increased efficiency in collection and administration, and reduced compliance burdens upon the taxpayers.

Studies undertaken by the Commission have dealt with subjects as diverse as transportation and as specific as state taxation of out-of-state depositories; as wide ranging as substate regionalism to the more specialized issue of local revenue diversification. In selecting items for the work program, the Commission considers the relative importance and urgency of the problem, its manageability from the point of view of finances and staff available to ACIR and the extent to which the Commission can make a fruitful contribution toward the solution of the problem.

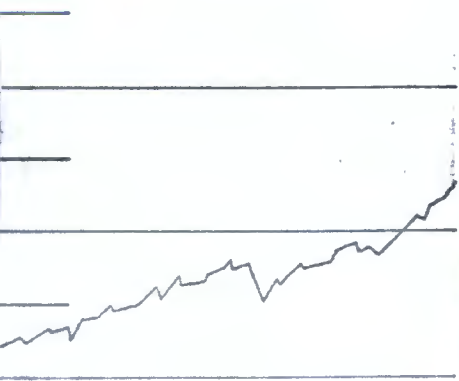
After selecting specific intergovernmental issues for investigation, ACIR follows a multistep procedure that assures review and comment by representatives of all points of view, all affected levels of government, technical experts, and interested groups. The Commission then debates each issue and formulates its policy position. Commission findings and recommendations are published and draft bills and executive orders developed to assist in implementing ACIR policies.

NOV 14 1980

to come
fascinating
stuff!



Significant Features of Fiscal Federalism 1979-80 Edition



ADVISORY
COMMISSION ON
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
RELATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20575
October 1980

M-123

Recent Trends in Federal and State Aid to Local Governments



Advisory Commission
on Intergovernmental
Relations

Washington, D.C. 20575
JULY 1980

M-118

**THE
FEDERAL
ROLE IN THE
FEDERAL SYSTEM:
THE DYNAMICS OF
GROWTH**

**The Condition of Contemporary Federalism:
Conflicting Theories and Collapsing Constraints**

Washington, D.C. 20575 • August 1981

A-78



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives

State House, Boston

WILLIAM G. ROBINSON
Republican Floor Leader

May 1, 1981

Jon D. Scarborough
Administrative Assistant
727-2375

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Jack Abramoff and Elliot Savitz have told me how very helpful you and Maiselle Shortley have been to them in their efforts to have me meet with administration officials.

I am grateful for your extra efforts and must apologize for not being in Washington as planned on April 29 and 30. Those two days were spent fighting efforts to increase taxes in Massachusetts. I am pleased to report that we were successful in the first round. I am sure you can appreciate my decision to remain in the State House.

We in Massachusetts are working hard to accomplish economies that parallel those of President Reagan. I have asked my Press Director, Martha Bernard, to send some materials to you. Our efforts center on an alternative budget to that which our Governor has proposed. We call it the "Better Budget" and are meeting with an excellent response across the state.

I am hoping to be in Washington late next week and will be in touch. Again, thank you for all your assistance.

Sincerely,
A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William G. Robinson", written in a cursive style.

William G. Robinson
Republican Floor Leader

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Office of Public Liason
White House, Room 134
Washington, D.C. 20500

WGR:mab

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 17, 1981

17 JUN 1981

TO: EDWIN MEESE III
ED THOMAS

FROM: RICHARD S. WILLIAMSON *Rich*

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA TRIBAL CHAIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION

I received a copy of the letter which was sent to you by the California Tribal Chairmen's Association dated June 10.

To refresh your memory, Morton Blackwell of the Public Liaison Office has been, and continues to be, our liaison contact at the White House with the Indian community.