

programs which cannot be assumed by others, and second, on the conviction that others should begin to assume the full responsibility for the cost of construction and improvement of civil airports.

Over the past two decades, more and more airports have progressed to the point of self-sufficiency. Aviation generally has achieved a state of maturity in which the users should be expected to pay an increasing share of airport costs. With the continued growth of aviation and the application of sound management principles, the progress toward airport self-sufficiency should continue.

I recognize that there will doubtless be a transitional period during which the Federal Government will be required to provide aid to urgent airport projects which are essential to an adequate national aviation facilities system and which cannot be completed in any other way. However, this bill does not provide for a transitional program. Rather, it sharply increases the level of the existing program. It does not provide for aid to the most urgent airport projects, but continues the current allocation formula which is not related to broad national aeronautical needs.

The existing program continues through June 30, 1959, so no community will be hurt by the withholding of approval of this legislation. At the next session of the Congress, the administration will recommend a transitional program to provide aid for the construction of urgent airport projects that are essential to an adequate national aviation facilities system.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 2, 1958.

AREA REDEVELOPMENT BILL

S. 3683. I am withholding my approval from S. 3683, the area redevelopment bill.

Every year for the past 3 years I have strongly urged the adoption of a program of Federal assistance to communities of substantial and persistent unemployment for the purpose of assisting those communities to develop a sounder and more secure economic base. I regret that no action along these lines has been taken by the Congress until this year and, needless to add, I am greatly disappointed that I find myself unable to approve the present bill.

My disapproval need cause no unnecessary delay in initiating a sound area assistance program. Even the unsound program contemplated by S. 3683 could not be of immediate help to any community because the Congress, before adjournment, failed to provide any money to carry out the bill's purposes. Until the next session of the Congress, the needs of areas of severe and persistent unemployment can be met in part through the new program of loans to State and local development companies under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 which I recently approved.

The repeated recommendations of the administration recognized that the major responsibility for planning and financing the economic redevelopment of communities of chronic unemployment must re-

main with local citizens if Federal programs are to be effective. The present bill departs from this principle, and would greatly diminish local responsibility. In doing so, and in including other undesirable features, it defeats any reasonable chance of giving effective help to the communities really in need.

S. 3683 provides for less local participation in the costs of local development projects than is proper or necessary to stimulate and assure the continuing interest and support of local governmental and private interests. The administration recommended loans, for periods of 25 years, in amounts not exceeding 35 percent of the cost of redevelopment projects. S. 3683, on the other hand, provides for loans for such projects for periods of 40 years, at artificially low interest rates, in amounts up to 65 percent of the total cost of a project.

S. 3683 proposes in addition a program of Federal grants for public works in redevelopment areas under which it would be possible to have no local participation whatever. Moreover, the criteria for making these grants are so loosely drawn that, without indiscriminate use of funds, administration of these provisions would be almost impossible. This is a field in which, if the Federal Government participates at all, it should be able to rely upon local judgments backed by significant local contributions.

S. 3683 is also defective in my judgment because its assistance in certain instances, would be available in areas in which unemployment is traceable essentially to temporary conditions. Federal assistance to communities where unemployment is not clearly chronic would necessarily mean the assumption of responsibility by the Government for the direct support of local economies—an assumption of responsibility that would have the most profound consequences.

I also believe it would be a grave mistake to establish, as this bill would, an area assistance program in the Housing and Home Finance Agency. Such a program should be lodged, not with an agency concerned with residential housing and related matters, but rather with the Department of Commerce which has primary responsibility for business and industrial development and a long experience in extending to local areas technical aid for economic development.

S. 3683 also contemplates a Federal redevelopment assistance, including loans, in rural areas. There is serious question as to whether Federal loans for the construction of industrial buildings in rural areas would be a proper or effective approach, much less a permanent one, to the problems of surplus labor in essentially agricultural communities.

It is my intention next January when the Congress reconvenes to request the Congress to enact area assistance legislation more soundly conceived to carry out the purposes which I have repeatedly stressed as being in the national interest. It is my hope that Congress at that time will move with all possible speed to enact such an area assistance program.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 6, 1958.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1958

The House met at 11 o'clock a. m. The Chaplain, Rev. Bernard Braskamp, D. D., offered the following prayer:

Jude 25: *To the only wise God, our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever.*

Almighty God, our Father, we are again humbly uniting our minds and hearts in the fellowship of prayer to worship and adore Thy great and holy name.

We pray that Thou wilt bestow the benediction of Thy peace and the diadem of Thy praise upon our President, our Speaker, the chosen Representatives of our Republic, and all who have served during this 85th Congress in whatever capacity.

May we have within our hearts the joyous testimony that we have sought to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of our high vocation with a pure and steadfast devotion.

Grant that we may leave this Chamber, commending and committing one another to Thy love and care and with the assurance that where Thou dost guide Thou wilt also provide.

May the Lord bless us and keep us; may the Lord make His face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us; may the Lord lift upon us the light of His countenance and give us peace.

Hear us in the name of the Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

The Journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate, by Mr. McGown, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed, with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H. R. 13580. An act to increase the public debt limit.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendments of the House to a bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 3683. An act to establish an effective program to alleviate conditions of substantial and persistent unemployment and underemployment in certain economically depressed areas.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendments to the bill (H. R. 7450) entitled "An act to make the Policemen and Firemen's Retirement and Disability Act Amendments of 1957 applicable to retired former members of the Metropolitan Police force, the Fire Department of the District of Columbia, the United States Park Police force, the White House Police force, and the United States Secret Service; and to their widows, widowers, and children;" disagreed to by the House; agrees to the conference asked by the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints