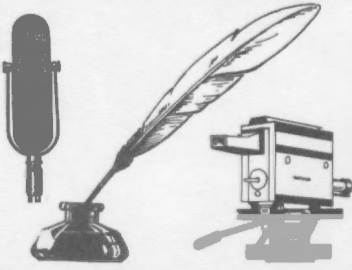


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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
 HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
 RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--

March 25, 1971

Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, placed in the Congressional Record of March 25, 1971

Mr. Speaker, in the last four decades more and more power has been concentrated in the Washington bureaucracy.

During that time the Congress appears to have been fascinated by sheer numbers--a fantastic increase in numbers of Government programs, numbers of Federal dollars allocated to those programs, and numbers of Federal workers employed in those programs.

The problems remain. In fact, the problems have become worse. And in recent years when Presidents have tried to point to progress they have talked in terms of increased dollar outlays rather than results.

This has brought crushing disappointment to the American people--a bitter realization that performance has fallen far short of political promises.

There is an inescapable conclusion--that the system is at fault, that thorough-going changes are needed in the fundamental structure of the Federal Government and the federal aid system.

The President has sent us his proposals for Federal revenue sharing--and these are most welcome.

Today we have received the President's proposal for governmental reorganization. This, combined with revenue sharing, places us on the threshold of a new era in American political history, an era in which the people are given more control over their own destinies.

We need only look at the record and we must recognize that governmental reorganization is a must. In the past 20 years the number of Cabinet departments has increased from 9 to 12; the number of major independent agencies has increased from 27 to 41; the number of Federal employes has increased from 2.1 million to 2.7 million; the Federal budget has increased from \$42 billion to more than \$200 billion; and the number of Federal programs has jumped more than 10-fold to about 1,400.

We need wholesale reorganization of the Federal government. We need to reorganize the Executive Branch along the lines of the functions served by various departments and agencies, not the constituencies they now serve.

This is the thrust of the President's plan--to organize the Federal Government by function. This, I believe, would eliminate overlapping and clear away the present complicated maze.

Our citizens are sick of the complexity of big government. They are sick of waste. They are sick of the miles and miles of red tape in which government now is entangled...and the people with it.

I urge the Congress to give careful study to the President's proposals and to bring order out of chaos. The Congress must not stand in the way of progress.

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