

The original documents are located in Box 23, “2/3/76 - Remarks Concerning General Revenue Sharing” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SAID

TALKING POINTS FOR THE PRESIDENT
ON GENERAL REVENUE SHARING

Last April I called upon the Congress to extend the General Revenue Sharing program. This program has been a highly successful and effective means for providing federal assistance to state and local governments. General Revenue Sharing, which was originally enacted in October of 1972, has to date made over \$23.5 billion available to the 50 states and over 38,000 localities across the nation. Under my proposal, this program would be extended until September 1982, a period of 5 3/4 more years, during which \$39.85 billion would be returned to state and local governments.

I am extremely disappointed at the lack of progress to date in the Congress to provide this extension. In view of the current fiscal squeeze that state and local governments are now experiencing, further delay or the reduction and probable termination of revenue sharing payments could have a severe impact on state and local governments.

Last week I met with a group of governors, mayors, and county officials to review the legislative situation on revenue sharing. I have just concluded a meeting with the Vice President, Secretary Simon, and others

within the Administration to review what additional steps can be taken to secure the enactment of the General Revenue Sharing renewal legislation.

I know from first-hand experience when I was a member of Congress that the Vice President, who was then Governor of New York, had a leading role in the enactment of the original legislation.

Because of the importance I place on this effort, I have asked the Vice President to devote his considerable talents and energy to seeing that this renewal legislation is enacted. The Vice President, Bill Simon, Jim Cannon, and others will be glad to provide additional information on where we are and what we will be doing in the weeks and months ahead in this important effort.