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Technical Bulletins: Revenue Sharing Extended Three Years; RS Handicapped Regulations Become Final

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Municipal Technical Advisory Service

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TECHNICAL BULLETIN

MUNICIPAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
IN COOPERATION WITH THE TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

U.T. NO. E14-1050-00-002-84

December 15, 1983

REVENUE SHARING EXTENDED THREE YEARS; RS HANDICAPPED REGULATIONS BECOME FINAL

by Wm. Gary Head, Assistant Director

Federal revenue sharing has been extended for three years, ending Sept. 30, 1986. The title of the act is "Local Government Fiscal Assistance Amendments of 1983." Key features of the act:

1. Funding level remains same. The present funding level of \$4.57 billion is retained. This means that local governments can expect to receive approximately the same allocation as last year, subject to minor variations listed below.

2. States' allocation officially terminated. Although the states' allocations have been withheld for several years, the 1983 act officially terminates participation by states in allocations.

3. Modification of Intrastate Allocation Formula. The act revises the intrastate allocation formula to disregard a reduction in a local government's adjusted taxes if: a) the reduction is caused by a "specific economic dislocation," and b) the reduction would mean a decrease of 20 per cent or more in the government's allocation.

4. Only one public hearing required. Only the "proposed use" hearing is required, but the act envisions that the local government will provide an opportunity for interested persons to suggest alternative uses of such funds.

5. Audit provisions changed. The changes and original provisions do not affect local governments in Tennessee, because annual audits are required of all local governments.

REVENUE SHARING HANDICAPPED REGULATIONS ARE FINAL

Handicapped regulations promulgated by the ORS became final Oct. 17, 1983. Briefly, the regulations require that:

1. All recipients must prepare, by Oct. 17, 1984, a "Self-Evaluation/Transition Plan." The purpose of this document is to effect changes, by that date, in noncompliance areas deemed to be "nonstructural" in nature. These include programs, activities, policies, and practices. A period not exceeding three years is allowed to accomplish needed "structural changes." These changes will be addressed in the "Self-Evaluation/Transition Plan."

2. Recipients of more than \$25,000 per year meet these additional requirements:

- a) Make a copy of the plan available for public inspection;
- b) Adopt a grievance procedure by Oct. 17, 1984, to provide for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints, other than employment or post-secondary educational complaints;
- c) Designate responsible employee to coordinate efforts to comply with the handicapped regulations;
- d) Within 90 days of Jan. 17, 1984, give public notice that the recipient has a policy against handicapped discrimination; and
- e) In the above notice, include the name of the designated "responsible employee" to contact and ensure that the entire notice be received by the visually and hearing impaired.

Contact your MTAS Management or Finance Consultant if additional assistance is required.

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