STATEMENT BEFORE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTER-GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE, 89TH CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 2, 1965

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to present my views on S.561, the proposed Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1965.

My appearance in support of this measure indicates both my concern over the present state of intergovernmental relations and my support of this vital legislation. The citizens of my State increasingly call upon all levels of government to provide those services necessary to meet current problems and future needs. No one level of government will provide the solution to the problems of water and air pollution, transportation, juvenile delinquency, unemployment, or other results of rapid growth and development. The states and the federal government must provide the administrative and financial tools necessary to get the job done. To do this requires a higher degree of cooperation between the states and Washington. The enactment of this bill will be a first step in this direction.

While I wish to center my remarks on the first Title, I also would like to comment briefly on Titles III and IV, and I will do that first. Under Title III the federal government will be permitted to supply, on a reimbursable basis, certain technical services to state and local government. This will avoid a duplication of effort and the need for states to employ highly technical personnel for a highly technical purpose.

On June 1, 1963, I signed into law a bill creating the Regional Planning Council serving Baltimore City and County and Carroll, Harford, Howard and Anne Arundel Counties. Under this law, the Council is responsible for the preparation and adoption of a comprehensive plan for the development of this five-county area. The Council is now formulating such a plan. It will contain a comprehensive view of the present picture and recommendations to guide future growth. Section 403 will go far in strengthening general local government in my State and Section 404 will help strengthen the position of the Regional Planning Council.

Title I of this bill is an acknowledgment that, in some instances, grants-in-aid have had an adverse effect on the organization of state government. Section 106 attempts to relieve certain problem areas cited