This READER ON ALTERNATIVE PUBLIC POLICIES was compiled and assembled to assist public officials and others who are active and interested in political and economic change in state, county, and municipal government. The bills, ordinances, proposals, and articles included were suggested by State Representatives, City Council Men and Women, County Supervisors, and professors and journalists active in alternative politics at the local level.

Too often in the past concerned and progressive people working in state and local government have been isolated from one another and from the ideas and proposals developed in other states and cities which might be useful for them. Certainly alternative proposals and legislation does exist and this is evidenced by the technical competence and the remarkable diversity of the materials assembled in this READER.

Although this READER was originally prepared simply for the Conference on Alternative State & Local Public Policies held in Madison, Wisconsin, the decision of the Conference participants to form a continuing organization will guarantee the continuation of the work begun in Madison. This new group, the National Conference on Alternative State & Local Public Policies, will provide a forum and a meeting place for local officials and others to exchange ideas, bills, and innovative proposals through a wide ranging program of publications, newsletters, and regional and national conferences. Anyone interested in the work and activities of the National Conference is urged to write to:

Barbara Bick, National Coordinator
Institute for Policy Studies
1901 Q Street, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20009

We would like to thank Barbara Bick of the National Conference, Susan Butler of the Institute for Policy Studies, and especially Susan Bennett and Professor Richard Lehmann of the Institute of Governmental Affairs, University of Wisconsin Extension for their assistance in compiling this READER.

At present we are also planning to publish a second READER ON ALTERNATIVE PUBLIC POLICIES for the second annual national conference which will be held in the early summer of 1976. We would appreciate copies of interesting bills, ordinances, studies, and proposals that you could send to us for inclusion in the next READER.

Sincerely,

Derek Shearer and Lee Webb
September 1975
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Descriptions of several experimental political ordinances undertaken in Chicago since 1971, Letter written by Alderman Dick Simpson, Chicago, Ill., May 1975

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Summary of New York Assembly Bill 4415 To Provide Free Public Transportation

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"Broad Outline of a Proposal For A National Cooperative Bank," The Cooperative League of the USA, Washington D.C., February 1975


"Colorado's New Treasurer Looks At Banking System," by Sam Brown, newspaper article (source unknown)

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"A Bill To Establish a Vermont Comprehensive Dental Care Program," by Lee Webb, Plainfield, VT., July 11, 1972

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