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Series: Hamilton Jordan's Confidential Files

Folder: Goals for America, 1977

Container: 34b

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Office of the Chief of Staff Files, Hamilton Jordan's Confidential Files,
Goals for America, 1977, Container 34b

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TO: PRESIDENT CARTER
FROM: HAMILTON JORDAN *HJ*
RE: GOALS FOR AMERICA

I believe that it is possible and desirable to reconcile our need for a statement of this nation's goals with the reorganizational goal of the elimination of unnecessary commissions and boards in a very simple way.

Bob Bergland has 59 advisory committees in the Department of Agriculture. When we eliminate those committees (which in Bob's department are heavily oriented toward agribusiness) they can be replaced with a Citizens' Committee on Agriculture. This Committee can supplant the numerous advisory committees and provide input on a continuing basis on agriculture policy. Also, it can be the vehicle for the statement of our nation's policies and goals in the area of agriculture. Such a committee could be staffed by USDA, could hold public hearings around the country and develop a statement of this Administration's policy and goals.

These Citizens' Committees would also be a good way to honor and involve people who had helped us get elected.

If you would like for me to pursue this, please let me know. I believe that this would be the simplest and most ~~effective~~ **EFFECTIVE** way to develop goals for this Administration.

Please pursue this.

I generally agree.

I generally disagree.

An additional thought. If these Citizens Committees were set up soon enough, they could also become effective public advocates for reorganization.

Good
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