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DATE: November 15, 1999

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CPD FORMULA PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS TO BE RELEASED BY NOVEMBER 29

NCDA staff have received many inquiries regarding cities' FY 2000 CPD allocations, particularly those for the CDBG program. Until Congress finalizes the FY 2000 budget, HUD cannot calculate and release these numbers. According to Bob Meehan, Director of Systems Development and the person who calculates the allocations, these figures are scheduled to be released not later than November 29, 1999. Should Congress finish its work sooner, HUD will release the numbers sooner. NCDA will put the allocations on its web site and the member list serv as soon as we get them. They will also be mailed out as soon as we get a hard copy. However, if members need to estimate their allocations, based on FY 1999 numbers and the FY 2000 CDBG formula amount (which estimates and increase of \$20 million), we are providing you with the list of new entitlement communities in your state. Below is the list of the of new entitlement communities, those cities that are continuing to be a part of an urban county, and the cities now opting for entitlement status that were previously part or an urban county agreement.

FY 2000 New Metropolitan Cities

Auburn, AL
Opelika, AL
Citrus Heights, CA
Deerfield Beach, FL
Deltona, FL (joint grant w/ Volusia CO.)
Miramar, FL
Tamarac, FL
Bolingbrook, IL
Palatine, IL
St. Peters, MO
Rio Rancho, NM
Corvallis, OR
Hillsboro, OR (joint w/Washington, Co.)
Lakewood, WA
Shoreline, WA (joint grant w/ King Co.)
Cidra Municipality, PR

FY 2000 New Urban Counties

Lake County, FL
Lexington County, SC

Joint Grant Agreements (FY 2000-2002)

Cerritos, CA (Los Angeles Co.)
Redlands, CA (San Bernardino Co.)
Yorba Linda, CA (Orange Co.)
Deltona, FL (Volusia Co.)
Marietta, GA (Cobb Co.)
Roswell, GA (Fulton Co.)
Belleville, IL (St. Clair Co.)
Chicago Heights, IL (Cook Co.)
Downers Grove, IL (Du Page Co.)
Wheaton, IL (Du Page Co.)
Rochester Hills, MI (Oakland Co.)
Troy, MI (Oakland Co.)
North Las Vegas, NV (Clark Co.)
Clay Town, NY (Onondaga Co.)
West Seneca Town NY (Erie Co.)
Hillsboro, OR (Washington Co.)
North Richland Hills, TX (Tarrant Co.)
Federal Way, WA (King Co.)
Shoreline, WA (King Co.)
Vancouver, WA (Clark Co.)

Waukesha, WI (Waukesha Co.)

Metropolitan Cities no longer joint grant with urban county

Mission Viejo, CA
Coral Springs, FL
Plantation, FL
Berwyn, IL

Cities deferring Metropolitan City designation to remain part of urban county until FY 2000-2002

Clovis, CA (Fresno Co.)
Arcadia CA (Los Angeles Co.)
Diamond Bar, CA (Los Angeles Co.)
San Rafael, CA (Marin Co.)
Palm Desert, CA (Riverside Co.)
Temecula, CA (Riverside Co.)
Coronado, CA (San Diego Co.)
Lodi, CA (San Joaquin Co.)
Atascadero, CA (San Luis Obispo Co.)
El Paso de Robles, CA (San Luis Obispo Co.)
San Luis Obispo, CA (San Luis Obispo Co.)
Newark, DE (New Castle Co.)
Alton, IL (Madison Co.)
Granite City, IL (Madison Co.)
Shelby Township, MI (Macomb Co.)
West Bloomfield, MI (Oakland Co.)
Eden Prairie, MN (Hennepin Co.)
Brooklyn Park, MN (Hennepin Co.)
Minnetonka, MN (Hennepin Co.)
Piscataway Township, NJ (Middlesex Co.)
Bedford, TX (Tarrant Co.)
Thornton, CO (Adams Co.) through FY 2000
Olathe, KS (Johnson Co.) through FY 2000
Coon Rapids, MN (Anoka Co.) through FY 2001
Burnsville, MN (Dakota Co.)s through FY 2001
Egan, MN (Dakota Co.) Defers through FY 2001
Cary, NC (Wake Co.) Defers through FY 2001

APPROPRIATIONS WRAP-UP

After days of negotiating and posturing, it appears the Administration and Congress are making headway in completing the five remaining appropriations bills. The bills include the FY 2000 Interior, District of Columbia, Labor-HHS-Education, Foreign Operations, and Commerce-Justice-State spending measures. "There are a lot of hard-line positions," said House Appropriations Chairman C.W. Bill Young (R-FL). "We're at a critical point now of getting this resolved or staying until Christmas." Congress had hoped to adjourn on November 10, but that date has come and gone without final consensus on the remaining appropriations bills. Congress passed its fifth continuing resolution on Tuesday, November 9, to keep those federal agencies without appropriations bills operating through November 17. The President signed the measure. It looks like the end is finally in sight, however. Congress and the Administration have made headway in resolving most of the thorny issues and both sides feel confident they can wrap-up all of the appropriations bills by November 17. Congress will likely package the remaining appropriations bills into an omnibus measure and forward it to the President, late on Tuesday, for his signature.

Congressional Republicans relinquished their stance on education funding, accepting Clinton's plan to use the projected \$1.325 billion increase in education funding for hiring new teachers. Congressional Republicans had wanted to give local school districts total control over how best to use the funds, but Clinton was adamant about ensuring that class-room sizes are reduced through the hiring of more teachers. Twenty-five percent of the increase will go towards teacher training.

Final issues are being worked out in some of the bills. The Commerce-Justice-State bill is being stalled because Congressional Republicans refuse to pay dues owed to the United Nations. Republicans have agreed to pay the U.N. dues as long as there are abortion-related restrictions placed on international family planning assistance. Clinton has refused to go along with this idea and the bill continues to be mired in partisan politics. The United States will lose its right to vote in the U.N. General Assembly if it does not pay the dues this year. The five remaining bills are being held hostage, so to speak, by Sen. Byrd (D-WV) who plans to attach a policy rider to any one of the bills that would allow coal mining companies in the state of West Virginia to continue the practice of mountaintop mining. A West Virginia judge ruled this practice a violation of the Clean Water Act. So far, the White House has been supporting environmentalists on this issue, but Byrd is determined not to leave town until the mining practice is reinstated.

It appears an across-the-board cut that had been previously touted by Republicans will not happen because the President has vowed to veto any measure which such a proposal attached to it. Now, Congress is left with finding approximately \$6 billion in savings in order to avoid dipping into the Social Security surplus. Congress and the Administration are working together to agree on acceptable offsets.

FINANCIAL MODERNIZATION/CRA REFORM BILL SAILS THROUGH CONGRESS

With a vote of 90-8 in the Senate and 362-57 in the House of Representatives, the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Financial Services Act of 1999 (S. 900) passed the 106th Congress by an overwhelming bipartisan majority in the first week of November. Commonly referred to as the financial

modernization bill, this piece of legislation overturns depression era banking rules which forbid mergers between banks, insurance companies, and securities firms. Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers and White House Economic Advisor Gene Sperling, who negotiated the details of the bill on behalf of the Administration, have indicated that President Clinton intends to sign it.

Despite the fact that the President and an overwhelming majority of Congressional Democrats and Republicans support the Financial Services Act, numerous community development lending advocates continue to oppose the legislation. They view it as weakening the 1977 Community Reinvestment Act. These groups are especially disappointed by the fact that under the new law CRA will not be extended to apply to all the new business areas— insurance, securities dealing, etc.— that banks will be permitted to engage in. Moreover, the law grants a relaxed CRA examination schedule to small urban and rural banks, and institutes a “sunshine” provision that requires community groups who comment publicly on a bank’s CRA rating to file detailed reports with Federal Reserve about any CRA agreements they enter into with that bank. This reporting requirement is viewed as deterrent cooperative agreements between banks and community based development organizations.

Another source of opposition to the financial modernization bill are privacy advocates and consumers rights organizations, many of whom feel that the bill does not provide enough safeguards to protect the privacy of sensitive personal financial information. More detailed information about specific features of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Financial Services Act’s impact on CRA can be found in the October 29, 1999 *Washington Report* (www.ncdaonline.org).

BROWNFIELDS-SUPERFUND REFORM LEGISLATION FACES MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK

First the good news. Sources close to the negotiations are reporting that the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the House Commerce Committee have come to an agreement over two competing bills to reform the liability laws controlling the clean-up of brownfields and superfund sites across the nation. Even more important, this compromise legislation, designated H.R. 1300, contains all of the brownfields liability reforms that cities have been clamoring for—such as “innocent party” liability relief for prospective purchasers, contiguous owners of brownfields, and cities or other public entities that have come into possession of brownfields through routine governmental functions. The legislation also provides uncapped resources for brownfields site assessment and clean-up, and liability exemptions for city and county owned and operated water treatment systems.

Now the bad news. A dispute between the legislation’s key sponsors and members of the Republican leadership on how to fund the bill is emerging as the major sticking point holding up a vote on final passage of H.R. 1300. Under the original 1980 Superfund law, the Superfund site assessment and clean-up trust fund was financed through a combination of environmental taxes on industry and judgements against guilty polluters. These environmental taxes expired in 1995. Unless Congress reauthorizes these taxes, there will be no money available in the trust fund to meet the costs of the sweeping reforms contained in this reform bill. Bill Archer (R-TX), Chairman of the powerful Ways & Means Committee, the body in the House of Representatives with sole jurisdiction

over all tax levying legislation, remains undecided on whether he will permit the introduction of a bill to extend Superfund's environmental tax provisions. Many Democrats in the House have made it clear that unless taxes on polluting industries remain in place they will withdraw their support for H.R. 1300 on the grounds that general tax revenues should not be used to clean-up messes largely made by a narrow class of corporate polluters.

Unfortunately, even if a decent piece of brownfields-Superfund reform legislation does make it out of the House during the 106th Congress, we can not be sure about its ultimate fate in the Senate. The recent death of Rhode Island Senator John Chafee completely and drastically changed the operating dynamics of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. As Chairman of that Committee, Senator Chafee was a strong leader on environmental issues and had expressed a clear interest in shepherding the bill through the Senate and onto final passage. His successor Senator Bob Smith (R-NH) is an unknown quantity on the issue, except in that he is widely regarded to be a staunch pro-business conservative when it comes to matters of environmental policy. There is residual concern that bi-partisan brownfields -Superfund legislation could wind its way through the House only to be undone by partisan in-fighting on the post-Chafee Senate Environment And Public Works Committee.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors, The National League of Cities, the National Governors Association, and a spate of community development interest groups urge local officials to contact their members of Congress and urge them to support, H.R. 1300, since it is the bi-partisan brownfields-Superfund legislation with the greatest chance of being enacted in the life of this Congress.

MINIMUM WAGE FIGHT SIGNALS DEATH OF LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT AND BOND CAP INCREASE

On Tuesday, November 9th, Senate Republicans successfully attached an amendment to raise the national minimum wage by \$1.00 (from \$5.15 to \$6.15 per hour) over three years to S. 625, a bill to reform the nation's bankruptcy laws. In addition to the \$1.00 increase over three years, the amendment authorizes a generous package of tax sweeteners intended to compensate businesses for the increased labor costs mandated by the amendment. Adopted on a vote of 54-44, the Republican minimum wage tax relief package includes \$18.4 billion in tax give-backs for businesses and a proposal to give employers greater flexibility in laws governing compensation for overtime work. (Instead of overtime pay, employers would be able to give employees flex time and performance bonuses.)

The consensus view on Capitol Hill is that Republican Senators pushed through their minimum wage amendment in order to beat back a Democratic proposal authored by Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy. The Kennedy minimum wage proposal offered only \$9.5 billion in business tax cuts and required the \$1.00 minimum wage increase to take place over two years. Despite strong lobbying from Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD), Republicans kept their defections to a minimum and were able to win a vote, 50-48, to table the Kennedy amendment.

The intensely partisan atmosphere that exists in both chambers of Congress over the minimum wage

has direct implications for low-income housing advocates because the only remaining legislative vehicle that contains the long sought after increase in the low-income housing tax credit and private activity bond cap is the House Republicans' proposal (H.R. 3081) to increase the minimum wage. But House Republican leaders have made it clear that H.R. 3081 will not be allowed to make it to the floor for a vote unless the legislation's sponsor, Rick Lazio (R-NY) can ensure that he has lined up enough votes to pass it. Like their Senate counterparts, the House Republican leadership fears that if the Lazio bill is brought to the floor, it could actually lead to the passage of an alternative minimum wage bill sponsored by House Democratic Whip David Bonior (MI).

President Clinton has publicly declared that, even though he has a strong desire to see the minimum wage increased, he will veto either of the Republican proposals if they are sent to him because of excessive tax giveaways to big business. Responding to the lack of Democratic support for the Republican proposals, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-MS) predicted that no minimum wage increase would be enacted this year since the two sides are so far apart on both the rapidity of the increase and the size of the tax relief package for business. If this is the case, any opportunity for an FY 2000 LIHTC or bond cap increase is almost certainly dead.

FY 2001 BUDGET PROCESS ALREADY UNDERWAY

The process to prepare the Administration's FY 2001 budget is underway. Federal agencies, such as HUD, develop requests for funding which they submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), beginning in September. From September through November, OMB and the federal agencies "pass back" or negotiate budget requests. OMB forwards the final negotiated requests to the President in December for his approval. The President works from December through January with OMB to finalize the budget to his specifications. The budget is then submitted to Congress the first week in February. From March through September, the Congress works to develop its own budget, taking into consideration the budget developed by the President. The budget resolution, which Congress passes in the spring every year, provides the framework for the federal budget, and includes targets for discretionary and mandatory spending. Discretionary spending accounts for one third of all Federal spending and includes fiscal year spending by each federal agency, including the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Once Congress passes the budget resolution, it turns its attention to passing the 13 appropriations bills. This process continues through September (or longer – as we've seen this year) with the new federal fiscal year beginning on October 1.

In terms of HUD's FY 2001 budget, it is unknown what the President will recommend, or what Congress will approve, in terms of a funding level. We might look back to some of the President's initiatives in HUD's FY 2000 budget for some guidance on possible initiatives. Economic development was a top priority in HUD's budget in FY 2000 and will likely be again in FY 2001. HUD will work towards ensuring that its America's Private Investment Companies (APIC) program is authorized by Congress next year. HUD will also likely recommend more funding for this initiative as well as for Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities. Congress was not happy with the number of "boutique" programs proposed by HUD in its FY 2000 budget. Some of these programs dealt with the issue of economic development (Metropolitan Job Links, Regional Empowerment Zone Initiative, City-Suburb Business Connections).

Renewal of Section 8 contracts remains a priority for HUD, as with the Congress. HUD requested 100,000 new Section 8 vouchers in its FY 2000 budget and Congress provided funding for 60,000 vouchers. HUD is likely to request additional funding for more new Section 8 vouchers in its FY 2001 budget.

Of course, next year will be an election year, so members of Congress will likely wrap things up quickly (before October 1) in order to turn their attention to their re-elections, as well as the Presidential election. Accordingly, certain issues will take on greater importance, such as protecting Social Security and Medicare, reducing taxes, increasing the minimum wage, enacting campaign finance reform, and increasing education funding.

DISASTER INSURANCE BILL SURFACES IN THE HOUSE

The House Banking committee approved H.R. 21 –The Homeowners’ Insurance Availability Act of 1999 – a measure designed to provide residential insurance to disaster prone areas. Introduced by Rep. Rick Lazio (R-NY), the bill would establish the federal Disaster Reinsurance Fund under the Treasury Department, which would sell policies to state programs that provide reinsurance to insurance companies, or to state programs that provide insurance for homeowners who otherwise cannot afford policies through the private market. The 10-year insurance program would cover damage and losses from earthquakes and related tidal waves, fires, hurricanes, and volcanic eruptions. The intent of the legislation is to assist homeowners who live in disaster prone areas afford insurance coverage.

HUD NEWS

MIMI KOLESAR IS NAMED DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMS

NCDA is very happy to report that Mimi Kolesar has been named to the post of Director of HUD’s Office of Affordable Housing Programs. We were sad to see Marsha Dodge retire from the position, but are happy that the reigns have been passed to Mimi. Mimi has been a long-time friend of NCDA and a great advocate for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. We look forward to working with her in her new position.

LEAD-BASED PAINT TRAINING UPDATE

As mentioned in previous editions of the *Washington Report*, HUD will provide training on the Lead-Based Paint final regulations, with the first training session to be held in Baltimore, MD on November 15. HUD has contracted with ICF Consulting to conduct 26 training sessions across the country (see enclosed training schedule), with another 27 training sessions to be held later next year. We have enclosed a copy of HUD’s training brochure, which describes the training, how to register

for the training, and information on the 26 training locations. We have also included an outline, prepared by HUD, of the major regulatory areas affected by the final regulations. For those members who have access to the internet, HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control's web site provides the same detailed information on the training. The site also allows persons to check their registration status and submit questions directly to ICF concerning the training. The web site address is: www.hud.gov/lea/leahome.html The e-mail address for ICF is icftraining@icfconsulting.com

According to the brochure, persons administering CDBG, HOME, Emergency Shelter Grants, HOPWA, Shelter Plus Care, the Supportive Housing Program, and Youthbuild should attend the training, as all of these programs will be affected by the lead-based paint final regulations. The training is free. Space is limited, so register EARLY for the training session you want to attend.

HUD RELEASES REPORT ON THE ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE NORTHEAST

As a follow-up to its earlier report on *Now is the Time: Places Left Behind in the New Economy*, HUD has prepared a similar report which focuses on the Northeast corridor. In the report, HUD finds that several mid-sized and small cities located in the Northeast have pockets of poverty due to loss of commercial activity in these areas. The report also finds that unemployment has dropped in the Northeast in the past eight years, but that high unemployment remains in some cities, with some unemployment rates exceeding 13%. The report also finds that one in four central cities in the Northeast has suffered steady population losses. The report can be accessed through HUD's web site at www.hud.gov/pressrel/pr99-225.html. President Clinton is relaying the findings of the report as he makes his way to cities on his New Markets Initiative tour this week. Congress approved \$20 million in funding for the President's America's Private Investment Companies (APIC) initiative in FY 2000. APIC is one cornerstone of the President's New Markets initiative and would provide investment capital in distressed urban and rural areas. APIC first has to be authorized by Congress next year before funds can be appropriated.

NCDA NOTES

NCDA 2000 WINTER MEETING: January 26-29, 2000

Don't forget to make plans and reservations for the NCDA 2000 Winter Meeting!! As we have been reporting, this meeting will include a special recognition ceremony for Former Executive Secretary John A. Sasso. This is an event members won't want to miss. Besides the party for John, the Winter Meeting will include an economic development workshop and a special overview on the newly finalized lead-based paint regulations.

**NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
DRAFT AGENDA
NCDA 2000 WINTER MEETING
January 26-29, 2000**

Wednesday, January 26, 2000

		9:30 -11:00 a.m.	NCDA Legislative/Policy Forum
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Registration		
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Economic Development Workshop	11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon	U.S. Conference of Mayors Discussion
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Board Meeting/and Dinner	12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.	Audrey Nelson Awards Luncheon
6:00 -11:00 p.m.	Hospitality Suite	2:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions

- (1) Neighborhood Revitalization
- (2) Census Update
- (3) Citizen Participation and the Con Plan

Thursday, January 27, 2000

8:00a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Registration		
8:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Opening General Session	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	HUD Briefings		(1) Empowerment Zones
10:30 - 12:00 noon	CD Committee Meeting		(2) Housing Session
12:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Membership/State Whips Luncheon		(3) Using Community2020 as a Citizen Participation Tool
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Housing Committee Meeting	2:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Hill Visits
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Technology Committee Meeting	6:00 - 10:00 p.m.	Hospitality Suite

Saturday, January 29, 2000

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Planning and Professional Dev.	9:30 - 10:30 a.m.	Closing Session Breakfast/Business Meeting
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Hospitality Suite	10:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.	Lead-based Paint Overview
		6:00 - 11:00 p.m.	Special Reception

Friday, January 28, 2000

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	Congressional Briefings
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REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration

To register, complete the form on the other side of this panel and send it to:

**National Community Development Association (NCDA)
522 21st Street, NW Suite 120
Washington, DC 20006**

Registration must be paid by check made payable to NCDA. Should you need to cancel, please mail, e-mail (ncda@ncdaonline.org) or fax (202.887.5546) your cancellation to NCDA by December 27, 1999. No refunds will be provided after this date.

Hotel Accommodations

NCDA has secured a block of rooms at the Washington Renaissance Hotel, 999 9th Street, NW: Washington, DC., the conference site. The hotel will hold this block exclusively for conference registrants through December 29, 1999. Reservations received after this date will be subject to room availability at the group rate.

To make your reservations at the Washington Renaissance Hotel, call 202-898-9000. To receive the group rate for accommodations of - \$139 single, \$164 double occupancy; Renaissance Club - \$159 single, \$184 double occupancy. All rates are subject to the Washington, DC tax of 14.5 percent per room, per night. To receive the group rate, please inform that sales representative that you are registering for the NCDA Winter Meeting.

REGISTRATION FORM

General Registration Fee

**Members: \$350
Non-Members: \$400**

Group discounts are available. When 2 persons attend from any single community, each person receives a \$25 discount. When 3 or more persons attend, each person receives \$50 off.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Agency/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Telephone/Fax: _____

Arrival Date: _____

Departure Date: _____

This is my first NCDA Winter Meeting.

Please return to:

**NCDA
522 21st Street, NW - Suite 120
Washington, DC 20006
Phone: 202.293.7587
Fax: 202.887.5546
E-mail: ncda@ncdaonline.org**

To register online please use the following:

<http://www.ncdaonline.org>

FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES

November 3, 1999. Notice of Funding Availability; Public Housing Drug Elimination Program; Gun Buyback Violence Reduction Initiative. The purpose of this notice is to affirm that gun buyback initiatives are an eligible activity under the public housing drug elimination program and to provide funding information and program guidelines for gun buyback programs. PHAs may reprogram a portion of their FY 1999 PHDEP grant dollars in order to devote such resources to a gun buyback violence reduction initiative. To encourage PHAs to devote a nationwide total of up to \$10.5 million of their FY 1999 PHDEP grant funds to gun buyback violence reduction initiatives in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies, HUD through this notice is making an additional \$4.5 million available for gun buyback violence reduction initiatives. This \$4.5 million will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis to PHAs that submit their reprogramming requests in accordance with this notice to provide approximately an additional \$43 dollars for every \$100 of FY 1999 PHDEP funds reprogrammed for gun buyback violence reduction initiatives.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES/ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Summary of Major Lead-based Paint Regulation Changes By Activity (<http://www.ncdaonline.org>)**
- 2. Community Development After Welfare Reform: Local Opportunities for Innovation and Collaboration (<http://www.ncdaonline.org/cdti>)**
- 3. Job Opportunities (<http://www.ncdaonline.org/members/jobs/joblist.asp>)**