

Edmisten To Host Conference On Major Regulatory Reform Policies

N. C. Attorney General Rufus Edmisten will host his battle against runaway government regulation by hosting a major regulatory reform conference on September 26 with a keynote speech by Stuart Edmisten, the President's chief domestic advisor.

Edmisten will invite 15,000 consumers and businesspeople from across North Carolina to join Edmisten, Azie Morton, Treasurer of the United States, Sen. Robert Morgan, Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt, and Gov. James Hunt, in the country's first statewide conference on regulatory reform.

The attorney general announced the conference before he swore in the members of a state com-

New Board Members To Be Confirmed

The monthly meeting of the Eastern Carolina Health Systems Agency (ECHSA) will be held September 19, at 7:30 P.M. in the Islander Motor Inn at Emerald Isle.

The agenda will include but not be limited to the following: Confirmation of New Board Members; Election of Corporate Officers; Election of Executive Committee; Report on Project Reviews; Roanoke-Chowan Mental Health Service; Decriminalization Grant; ECU School of Medicine - Family Practice Residency Program; Onslow Memorial Hospital - ICU-CCU Unit Renovations; Chowan Hospital Inc - Expansion of Ancillary Services Nurse, Inc - Addition of 23 SNF, 25 ICF Beds; Craven County Hospital - Addition of 34 Beds and Expansion of Support Services; Lenoir Memorial Hospital - Expansion of Ancillary Services and Addition of 41 Beds; Caswell Center - Renovation Wildwood Building; Beverly Enterprises - Acquisition of Albemarle Villa; Beverly Enterprises Acquisition of Medco Home Health Center; Beverly Enterprises - Acquisition of Greenville Villa; Edgecombe County Home Health Agency - Addition of Speech Therapy and Wilson Memorial Hospital - Expansion of Ancillary Services.

Sen. Helms Co-Plaintiff In OSHA Lawsuit

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Sen. Jesse Helms has joined as a co-plaintiff in a lawsuit filed by Rep. Mickey Edwards R-OK against Labor Secretary Ray Marshall and the Assistant Secretary for OSHA, Edna Bingham.

The suit is being filed because OSHA has failed to abide by the rules set by Congress when the agency was created in April 1971. The Act itself was passed in 1970. Sections 7 and 4(b) of the Act require the Secretary of Labor to submit his recommendations for legislation to "avoid unnecessary duplications and to achieve coordination between this Act and other Federal laws." This report was due in April 1974 and has never been submitted to Congress as required by law.

Helms said, "Since OSHA is so heavy-handed in its dealings with small businessmen across the country, I feel that it is important that the agency not be allowed to ignore the law."

Efforts to obtain the required report from Secretary Marshall have failed. Thus, Helms said, "OSHA is violating the law and should be held accountable."

The suit is being handled by the Washington Legal Foundation and has been filed in the U.S. District Court.

mission whose job will be, in Edmisten's words, to "reduce bloated, confusing, and unnecessary regulations in North Carolina by 25 per cent." The empanelment of this 15 member commission, formally called the Administrative Procedures Study Commission, was one of five regulatory reform initiatives Edmisten announced on August 12. The swearing-in ceremony was performed in the Old House Chamber of the State Capitol in Raleigh.

Attorney General Edmisten charged the Study Commission with four duties and responsibilities. "I urge this Commission to design an effective and workable package of reform measures to broaden public participation in rule-making. Specifically, consider whether we need a State Register to provide our citizens with notice of rule-making hearings and newly-adopted rules."

"I urge you to create a process which will effectively review agency

regulatory action, not only for their statutory authority, but for their consequences and their propriety. We must have public accountability in our regulatory system."

"I urge you to perfect a method by which these persons who preside over administrative hearings between an agency and our citizens will be insulated from potential conflicts of interest arising out of their employment by the agency involved in the hearing. Specifically, consider whether we should establish

a central pool of administrative hearing officers."

"Finally, I urge the APA Study Commission to develop a practical system for reducing State regulations by 25 per cent. Consider how we should provide guidance to the rule-makers about what rules properly belong in the Administrative Code and whether we should create teams to provide the agency with drafting assistance."

The Study Commission's first report to the

Legislature and the Council of State is due by February 15, 1981.

In announcing that he will host a major regulatory reform conference in late September, Atty. Gen. Edmisten disclosed that North Carolina will become the first state in the nation to follow up on the President's White House Conference on Regulatory Reform of last January. Senior federal government officials to participate in the conference will include Edmisten, Morton, and

Simon Lazarus, associate director of the White House Domestic Policy Staff.

Many state-wide elected officials in North Carolina will participate in the conference, according to Edmisten. Those committed to attending include Morgan, Hunt, and Lt. Gov. Jimmy Green.

Other conference participants, Edmisten announced, will include Raleigh Mayor Smedes York, business leader C. Felix Harvey of Kinston; Edward V. Kiley, Assistant

to the President for Policy of the American Trucking Associations, Inc.; Joel Fleishman, vice chancellor of Duke University; Sherwood Smith, chairman and president of Carolina Light and Power Company; Wymene Valand, chairperson of North Carolina's Sunset Commission; James Wallace, vice chairman of North Carolina's Environmental Management Commission; and Durwood Laughinghouse, vice president of A. D. Swindall Farms, Inc.

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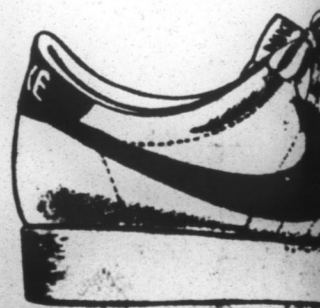
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