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April 15, 1985

EWSLETTER

of Appointed Administrators Serving ils, and Other Local Governments

Update on Antitrust Laws

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In a late-March ruling, the Supreme Court expanded local government immunity from federal antitrust laws and broadly defined the circumstances in which cities are exempt.

Claire case that the city of Eau Claire, Wisc., cannot be sued under antitrust laws by surrounding towns for allegedly monopolizing sewage collection and treatment. The ruling means that state-approved city actions are not subject to antitrust restrictions and city actions do not have to be supervised by the state.

According to an article in the April l issue of Nation's Cities Weekly, "The Supreme Court also made clear that, because there are differences between the actions of cities and those of private parties, the courts should treat the actions of cities with more deference than those of private parties."

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