

WASHINGTON REVIEW

*A Report
From Your Congressman*



*Serving
Michigan's Fifth District*

JERRY FORD

August 14, 1972

HOUSE APPROVES H.E.W. SPENDING BILL

The House last week passed a bloated \$30.5 billion spending bill for the departments of Labor and Health, Education and Welfare (HEW).

A so-called compromise between earlier-approved House and Senate bills, the Labor-H.E.W. spending measure then went to the Senate.

This loaded appropriation bill calls for spending \$1.7 billion more than President Nixon requested.

Besides that, the bill contains the potential for a far greater cost overrun because it includes an open-ended Social Services program. The President asked \$2.3 billion for social services. But State requests already total nearly \$5 billion and could go to \$6 billion.

Rep. Robert H. Michel of Illinois, senior Republican on the Labor-H.E.W. appropriations subcommittee, termed the bill "a prime candidate for a Presidential veto."

Michel pointed out that the bill was \$958 million or 23 per cent over the President's budget on health items and \$791 million or 23.6 per cent over the budget for education.

As Michel noted, there would have been some justification for the boosts in health and education spending if the Administration had been niggardly in such outlays in recent years, but this just doesn't happen to be true.

The President's request for fiscal 1973 for the Health Services and Mental Health Administration was 52 per cent over the comparable 1969 appropriation. For the National Institutes of Health, it was 56 per cent more.

Preventive health services have been more than doubled since 1969, and health services planning and delivery have been increased some 50 per cent.

The National Cancer Institute budget has been increased more than 100 per cent, and the Heart and Lung Institute some 40 per cent.

The President's budget request for the education items in the H.E.W. money bill was 25 per cent over the comparable 1969 level, and this does not include higher education or a request this year for a billion dollar program of emergency school assistance for elementary and secondary education.

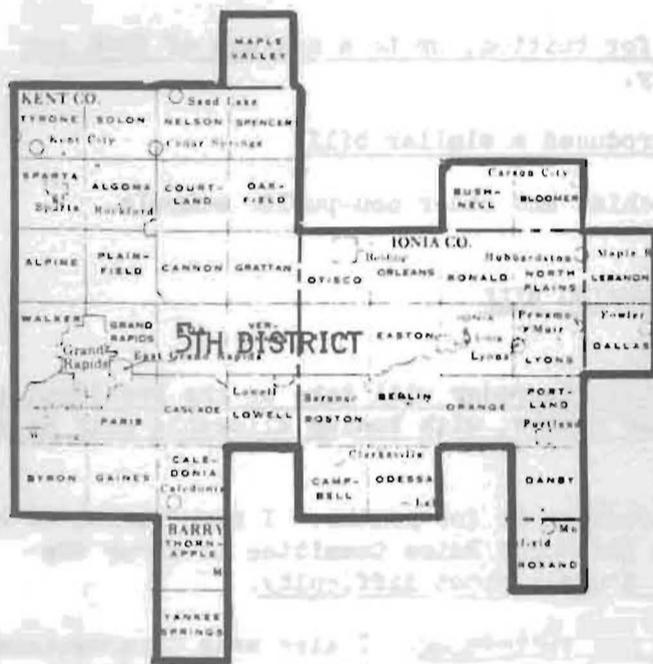
Elementary and Secondary Education Act funds have grown by about one-third since 1969.

Vocational and adult education funds have nearly doubled, and the appropriation for education for the handicapped has increased nearly 50 per cent.

Programs carried under the heading, "Educational Renewal," have grown more than 100 per cent since 1969.

So there was no justification for the huge increases tacked on the H.E.W. spending bill in the House and the Senate. The compromise \$30.5 billion bill passed the House 240 to 167. I voted against it.

(over)



AGRICULTURE-ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER PROTECTION OUTLAYS O.K.'D

The same day the Labor-H.E.W. money bill was approved, the House passed 317 to 80 the final version of the Agriculture-Environmental and Consumer Protection Appropriation Bill for fiscal 1973. The bill provides \$13,434,032,700.

The Ag-Environmental bill includes funds to keep the farmer producing, to see that he has an adequate return for his high quality production, and to enable the consumer to spend only 16 per cent of his average income for food. The bill includes \$2,371,014,000 for the Environmental Protection Agency. I voted for the bill, which passed 317 to 80.

HEARINGS BEGIN ON MY NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL TAX CREDIT BILL

Hearings were to begin August 14 before the House Ways and Means Committee on my bill, and others, to aid non-public schools through tax credits for parents paying tuition.

Witnesses this week were to include Treasury Secretary George P. Schultz, HEW Secretary Elliot L. Richardson, and Budget Director Caspar W. Weinberger. The hearings are to resume after Labor Day.

My bill would provide a tax credit of 50 per cent for tuition, up to a maximum of \$400 per child, with a maximum of \$800 in tax credits per family.

House Ways and Means Chairman Wilbur Mills has introduced a similar bill.

The President has repeatedly endorsed aid for parochial and other non-public schools.

HOUSE ACTION DUE ON ANTI-BUSING BILL

Unless there is a change in scheduling, the House this Thursday will take up the President's bill to lay down school desegregation guidelines for the courts, with busing allowable only as a last resort.

I strongly support this legislation and have been pushing it for months. I have worked with members of the House Education and Labor Committee and the House Rules Committee to clear the bill for House floor action. The bill should pass the House without difficulty.

Passage of the busing guidelines bill, alone, will not satisfy me. I also want Congressional approval of a moratorium on court-ordered busing and a Constitutional amendment which would ban all mandatory busing to achieve racial balance.



AUGUST INTERN -- Carl Aardsma of Grand Rapids is interning in my Washington office during August. He will be a sophomore at Grand Rapids Bible College this fall.

HOUSE BACKS PRESIDENT

The House last Thursday expressed its continued support for President Nixon's efforts to end the Vietnam War through Vietnamization and negotiation.

The House rejected, 228 to 178, a so-called end-the-war section in a \$2.1 billion foreign military aid bill. The House deleted the section from the bill and then passed the measure 221 to 172. I voted to knock the section from the bill and then voted for the bill. I don't believe we should pull the rug out from under the President as he seeks to end the war.

GOP PUSHES FOR SPENDING LIMIT

Last Thursday I reintroduced, with 129 Republican cosponsors, a bill which would set a \$250 billion limit on Federal spending in fiscal 1973. We must curb spending to avoid a tax increase in future years. The Congress has already exceeded the President's budget by \$5 billion and threatens to do more fiscal damage.

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JERRY FORD

August 21, 1972

HOUSE APPROVES STRATEGIC WEAPONS LIMIT AGREEMENT

The House last Friday authorized President Nixon to accept the agreement he negotiated in Moscow last May 26 limiting the deployment of U.S. and Soviet offensive strategic weapons.

The agreement, aimed at curbing the nuclear arms race, caps 2½ years of negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union. The resolution giving the House's approval to the interim agreement was cosponsored by House Majority Leader Hale Boggs, D-La., and me.

Acting for the United States, the President last May signed SALT accords which consisted of the five-year interim agreement on offensive weapons approved last week by the House and a treaty limiting antiballistic missile systems (ABMs). There is also a protocol to the interim agreement and a number of statements of "interpretation" by the U.S. and the Soviets.

Only the Senate acts on the ABM treaty. But the agreement on offensive weapons must be approved by both the House and Senate.

The interim agreement and protocol limit U.S. and Soviet ICBMs, ballistic missile submarines and submarine-launched ballistic missiles to the number deployed and under construction on July 1, 1972. The numbers are 1,054 for the United States and 1,618 for the Soviet Union. There is no limitation on strategic bombers.

Launchers for "light" ICBMs and "older" ICBMs may not be replaced by "heavy" ICBMs. However, both sides may replace their ICBMs with more modern ones, including the multiple independent reentry vehicles known as MIRVs. But the modernization may not increase the launcher size by more than 10 to 15 per cent.

The agreement also limits modern nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines and SLBM launchers. The U.S. can reach a level of 710 SLBM launchers on 44 submarines while the Soviet Union's ceiling is 950 modern SLBM launchers on all submarines and no more than 62 modern nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines.

The ABM Treaty continues the current situation of mutual deterrence by limiting ABM systems to two sites--one in defense of both sides' national capital and the other in defense of an ICBM base. This places both sides in the position of not having a substantial defense against major missile attacks, so that neither would be in a position to engage in a preemptive first strike without fear of massive retaliation.

IN BEST INTERESTS OF U.S.

The following table estimates the projected strategic balance in mid-1977, at the expiration of the new 5-year agreement on offensive weapons, based on administration statements about present U.S. planning and on observed deployment rates for Soviet systems:

	Without Moscow Agreement		Under Moscow Agreement	
	U.S.S.R.	U.S.	U.S.S.R.	U.S.
Land-based Missiles	1,900	1,054	1,330	1,000
Sea-based Missiles	1,200	656	950	710
Heavy Bombers	140	500	140	500
Deployed Strategic Warheads	3,400	11,000	2,600	11,000
Equivalent Megatonnage	5,500	4,550	4,000	4,450

Weapons characteristics based on the International Institute for Strategic Studies' "The Military Balance, 1971-1972."

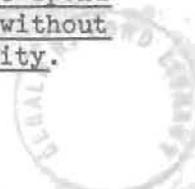
There is no question that the interim SALT agreement is in the best interests of the United States.

The momentum of the Soviet arms buildup would have carried the Soviet forces well beyond the level planned for our forces by the mid or late 1970s.

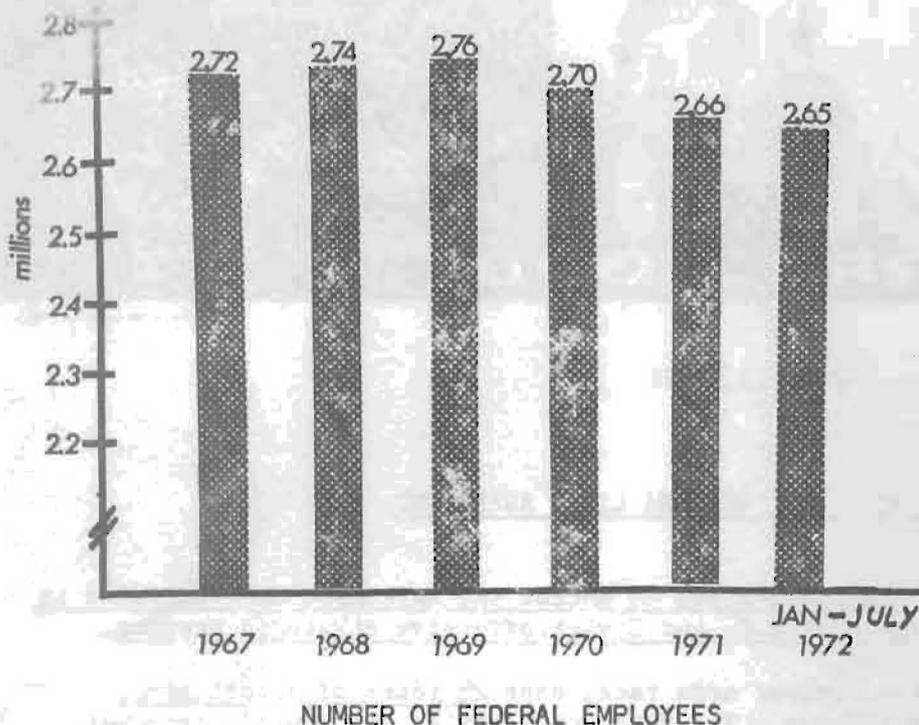
The absence of SALT accords would have given new vigor to the arms race.

We would have been forced to spend billions more on armaments without achieving any greater security.

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PRESIDENT PREVAILS ON HOLD-DOWN IN SPENDING



The House last Wednesday night sustained the President's veto of the \$30.5 billion Labor and Health-Education-Welfare Departments appropriation bill for fiscal 1973.

The vote was 203 to 171 in favor of overriding the veto--and so it fell short of the required two-thirds majority.

In this bill Congress had exceeded the President's budget requests by \$1.8 billion and had included an open-ended item for social services to public assistance recipients which could have added \$3.5 billion in cost overruns.

To make the social services item open-ended was unconscionable.

There was also no excuse for fattening the health and education items in the bill by \$1.7 billion.

There would have been some justification for beefing up the health and education items if the Administration had been niggardly in this regard. But as I pointed out in great detail in my last newsletter, the Administration has substantially increased its budget requests for health and education every year that it has been in office.

In his veto message, the President emphasized how important it is to hold down Federal spending at this time when we have made gains in the fight against inflation and have made progress in increasing worker purchasing power. We must avoid a threatened tax increase.

In that connection, the Administration has been endeavoring to reduce Federal payrolls and this effort has produced results. Please note the chart above. It shows that the number of Federal civilian employees rose to 2.7 million in 1967 at the time of the Johnson Administration's Great Society phase and heavy Vietnam involvement. During the Nixon Administration, the number of Federal civilian personnel has receded to its present level of about 2.6 million.

HOUSE VOTES LAST-RESORT LIMIT ON BUSING

After being in session for 13 hours, the House early Friday morning voted to eliminate cross-town busing to achieve racial balance and instructed the courts to employ a list of alternative methods of desegregating a school before they could order any kind of racial busing.

I strongly supported this anti-busing measure, which passed the House 282 to 102. However, as I have previously stated, I will not be satisfied until we also have a Constitutional Amendment which bans forced busing altogether.

Under the bill passed by the House, a court ordering racial busing as a last resort to desegregate a school could not order students bused beyond the second nearest school to their homes. This applies to all students, not only to grade school pupils, under terms of an amendment which I was pleased to support. The amendment passed 178 to 88.

I also backed an amendment which would allow schools now under court busing orders to reopen their cases and make the courts comply with the new restrictions set forth in the legislation approved by the House last Friday.

CHINA REPORT GIVEN TO THE HOUSE

House Majority Leader Hale Boggs and I reported to the House last Tuesday on our recent trip to the People's Republic of China. I told the House how Chinese intellectuals and professional people work for a time in the fields and factories and suggested this might be a good practice in America. I also observed that the Communist Chinese, with their tremendous dedication and discipline, could become a threat to the world under the wrong leadership. But I added that I believe that "our young people today, even with the growing permissiveness, so long as they are willing to sacrifice for individuality and freedom, can meet the challenge."

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JERRY FORD

September 18, 1972

NOT PRINTED AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE

HOUSE CUTS DEFENSE BILL BY \$4.3 BILLION

The House late last week carefully pruned \$4.3 billion from the Department of Defense appropriation request for fiscal 1973.

The bill as approved by the House provides the Defense Department with \$74.6 billion--about \$1.4 billion more than was available in the last fiscal year. Inflation is primarily responsible for the increase in defense costs.

The reductions made by the House in the Defense Department's pending requests did not cut into our defense muscle. As House Appropriations Committee chairman George Mahon, D-Tex., explained to the House, the savings were made by eliminating "obsolete or marginal programs." Mahon cited "a more cautious approach to production of military hardware where substantial development and testing had not been completed." Mahon also pointed to shortfalls in military personnel strengths.

NO CUT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA FUNDS

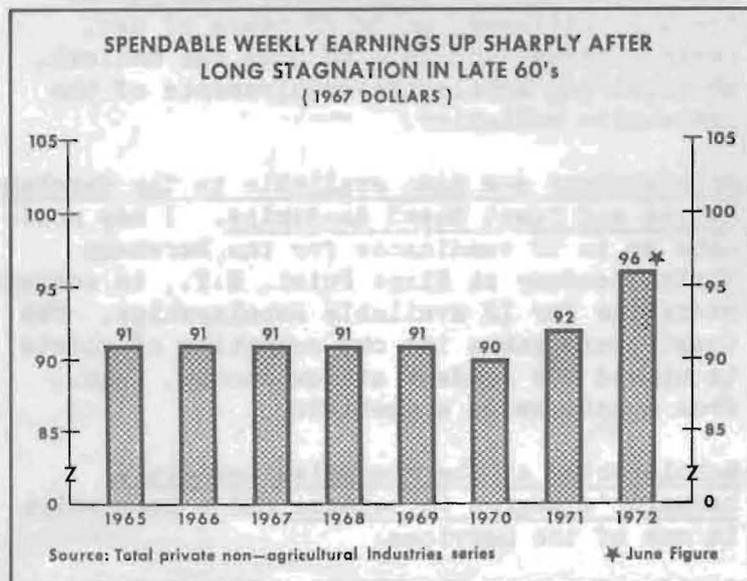
The bill provides \$2.5 billion for support of the South Vietnamese and other free world forces in Southeast Asia during this fiscal year.

The House approved the full amount of the Southeast Asia request. This gives the President the power to protect remaining U.S. forces in Vietnam as he continues America's withdrawal from the Vietnam War and seeks to end U.S. involvement there in an honorable way.

FULL SUPPORT FOR NEW WEAPONS PROJECTS

While approving reductions recommended by the Appropriations Committee the House gave full support and funding to the Administration's key new weapons projects--the Navy Trident missile-firing submarine and the Air Force B-1 bomber. The B-1 will replace the over-worked and aging B-52.

In carrying out cuts recommended by the Committee the House chopped out \$132 million from the request for the S-3A submarine-hunting airplane, \$190 million from a Pentagon request to buy three Boeing 747 Jumbo Jets equipped as emergency airborne command posts for the President and his staff, \$101 million from a \$421 million request for the Air Force's new F-15 fighter, and \$35 million from the military budgets for officer promotions.



While working on the defense appropriation bill, the House rejected a so-called "end-the-war amendment" 208 to 160. I voted against the amendment.

Chairman Mahon declared that every dollar in the defense budget as approved by the House is fully justified. He cautioned against any move toward unilateral disarmament.

Mahon asserted, "We must maintain a strong national defense. It would be utter folly to make significant unilateral reductions in our defense posture."

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HOUSE ADOPTS FINAL MILITARY PROCUREMENT AUTHORIZATION

Earlier in the week the House approved the final version of legislation authorizing appropriations for military weapons, armed forces research and development, construction of the Safeguard anti-ballistic missile system at Grand Forks, N.D., and the reserve components of the armed forces.

The bill, as finally agreed to, totalled \$20.9 billion. This was \$2.3 billion less than the amount asked by the Defense Department.

At the insistence of the House, a so-called "end-the-war amendment" which had been included in the Senate military procurement bill was dropped from the final version of the legislation. There already is on the books a law which reflects the intent of Congress that the U.S. involvement in Indochina be ended at the earliest practicable date.

CHILD NUTRITION LEGISLATION WRAPPED UP

The House last week took final action on amendments to the National School Lunch Act, assuring adequate funds to feed children in areas where poor economic conditions exist and in which there are high concentrations of working mothers.

The thrust of the legislation is to eliminate administrative and funding problems this school year in the school lunch program, the school breakfast program, and the nonschool assistance program.

The bill would:

- * Extend the nonschool food assistance program and the school breakfast program through June 30, 1975 and increase the annual authorization to "such sums as are necessary."
- * Require that free lunches be served to every child whose family income does not exceed a guideline fixed by the State educational agency--this guideline to be not less than 100 per cent nor more than 125 per cent of the poverty line for each size of family.
- * Require that reduced price lunches be served--when the school so elects--to every child within guidelines fixed by the State educational agency at not more than 150 per cent of the applicable poverty line.
- * Provide for advance payments for the school lunch program as well as for the school breakfast program.
- * Authorize a special two-year pilot program making supplemental foods available to pregnant and lactating women and to infants who are at nutritional risk.

SERVICE ACADEMY DEADLINE

The deadline is Sept. 25 for Fifth Congressional District young men interested in attending the service academies.

Applications must be filed by that date for the six appointments which are available to me. One is with the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Another is with the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. And four are with the U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs.

Applicants must be high school seniors who are U.S. citizens, under 22 years of age, never married, and able to pass the medical, physical and scholastic requirements of the respective academies.

Appointments are also available to the Merchant Marine and Coast Guard Academies. I may nominate up to 10 candidates for the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, N.Y., to compete statewide for 12 available scholarships. The Coast Guard makes its own selection of cadets to attend the Academy at New London, Conn., from a nationwide competition.

Scholarships at the academies lead to a bachelor's degree in science and a commission in one of the Services.

Applications may be obtained through my Grand Rapids and Washington offices.



ONE OF OUR fine summer interns was Miss Donna Coulter of Grand Rapids. Donna was graduated last June from Michigan State University, with a major in education.

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JERRY FORD

October 2, 1972

ADJOURNMENT IN SIGHT

Congress is heading into the home stretch toward adjournment, with the hoped-for finish line pegged at Oct. 14.

A spurt of activity is expected in both houses of Congress. In the House of Representatives, quite a bit of cleanup work has taken place, and final action on a number of important bills is due momentarily.

HOPE FOR TAX HOLD-DOWN

One of the major pieces of legislation the House is expected to wrap up this week is the monumental Federal revenue-sharing bill, which will make \$30.1 billion in Federal funds available to States and local units of government over a five-year period. One consequence of Federal revenue-sharing--a result I fervently hope for--may be a hold-down in State and local taxes. This would be a much-deserved break for the taxpayer.

The revenue-sharing legislation to be acted on this week is a compromise between earlier-approved House and Senate bills--a so-called conference report. Michigan's portion of revenue-sharing funds under the conference agreement will be \$221.8 million. Approximately \$74 million of this will go to the State government and \$147 million to the local units of government throughout Michigan.

The Kent County Area will receive \$6,265,190 the first year. Of that amount, the County Government will get \$2,512,999; Kent townships, \$135,555; City of Grand Rapids, \$2,682,599; East Grand Rapids, \$41,887; Grandville, \$60,948; Lowell, \$28,586; Sparta, \$30,739; Wyoming, \$641,867; and Walker, \$58,601. Kentwood's figure was not immediately available.



FINE SERVICE RENDERED -- Philip Schichtel of Grand Rapids was one of the interns working in my Washington office last summer. His fine work was very much appreciated.

The Ionia County Area's share is \$549,054. The County Government will receive \$263,528; the townships, \$54,771. City of Ionia will get \$68,038; Belding, \$64,600; and Portland, \$34,930.

I have been pushing since 1965 to get Federal revenue sharing enacted by the Congress. I am delighted that something finally is being done about the financial plight of the local units of government and the local tax load.

SPENDING LIMIT URGENTLY NEEDED

Because Congress has been greatly exceeding the President's budget, I joined with Rep. Frank Bow, R-Ohio, in sponsoring a resolution setting a \$250 billion ceiling on fiscal 1973 Federal spending.

Last Monday the House Ways and Means Committee voted to make this spending ceiling part of a bill raising the Federal debt limit.

Debt limit legislation is necessary because Congress last spring refused to increase the

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ceiling as much as required for continued operation of the government this fiscal year.

The absolute spending limitation is needed if Congress is to grapple successfully with the government spending problem. Yet House Democrats meeting in caucus last Thursday agreed they will not support the absolute spending ceiling unless the President first tells them what spending he will withhold. I think this is a destructive approach.

The Congress must give the President a check-rein on spending because it has been disregarding the President's budget requests. As a result, sums far exceeding budget requirements have been authorized or appropriated by the Congress.

REVISED H.E.W. BILL STILL TOO HIGH

The House has taken the \$30.5 billion H.E.W.-Labor appropriation bill vetoed by the President and cut it back to \$29.6 billion. Although this was \$935,471,000 less than the vetoed bill, it was still \$835,815,000 more than the President's budget. So I voted against the bill, just as I had voted against the original measure. The revised bill was still too high, but it passed 324 to 51.

SALT PHASE II IS UPCOMING

Planning can begin for the second phase of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) now that the House has passed and sent to the President the Senate's version of the U.S.-Soviet Agreement limiting offensive nuclear weapons.

Rather than take the time to dicker with the Senate over language in the Senate version, the House simply accepted it last week. This included the so-called "Jackson Amendment" which insists on equality of nuclear arms in any future agreement on offensive nuclear weapons between the United States and Russia.

HOUSE WOULD CREATE CONSUMER SAFETY AGENCY

The House has approved a bill which would create an independent agency empowered to set safety standards for consumer products ranging from lawnmowers to popguns--and, if necessary, to ban some of them. I voted for the bill.

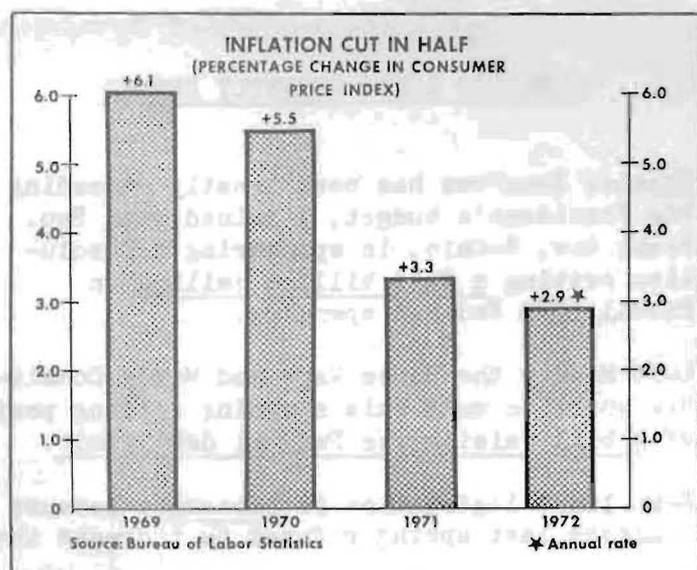
The measure passed 318 to 50 after opponents of an independent agency dropped attempts to make it a part of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare--a move backed by the Administration.

The House bill would make uniform and greatly expand Federal machinery for protecting consumers from dangerous products. Programs enacted in recent years to guard against specific dangers, such as flammable fabrics, would be brought together in the new agency. Tobacco, firearms, insecticides, food, drugs and motor vehicles are covered by other laws and are exempted.

The Senate has passed a broader bill which would take the Food and Drug Administration out of H.E.W. and make it part of the new independent regulatory agency.

HOUSE VOTES MILITARY CONSTRUCTION FUNDS

The House approved a \$2,278,675,000 military construction appropriation bill for fiscal 1973. The total was \$382,709,000 lower than the revised fiscal 1973 budget request--although \$133.3 million greater than in the last fiscal year.



Five appropriation bills have yet to pass the Congress in final form. To allow time for this action, the House adopted a "continuing resolution" which permits spending at the fiscal 1972 level by departments for which fiscal 1973 funds have not yet been appropriated.

HOUSE PASSES AID BILL

The House passed a \$4.2 billion foreign aid appropriation bill, which was \$967,869,000 below the budget request. This was about a 20 per cent reduction. The bill provides \$1.5 billion in military assistance and includes \$1.2 billion in economic aid to developing countries.

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JERRY FORD

October 9, 1972

HISTORIC WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT PASSES

Both Houses of Congress last week completed action on a piece of landmark legislation--the most expensive and most stringent water pollution control bill in the history of the Nation. I voted for the bill.

The bill is aimed at ridding the country's waters of pollution by 1985. Toward that end, it would authorize the spending of \$24.6 billion in Federal funds in three years.

The measure provides \$18 billion in contract obligation authority for Federal grants to municipalities through fiscal 1975 for the construction of waste treatment plants, including sewage collection systems.

But let me make this point. Because of the contract obligation provision, no significant impact would be felt on Federal spending until fiscal 1975, when the first major appropriations would be required to pay off the contracted Federal obligations.

IMPROVED METHODS ORDERED

The bill requires secondary treatment of all municipal wastes by mid-1977 and the application of more advanced disposal methods by mid-1983.

For industry, the bill establishes a two-phase cleanup program. This involves increasingly tight restrictions on industrial pollution, backed up by finances and imprisonment for violators.

The Federal Government will provide 75 per cent of the cost of constructing a community's waste treatment plant. It is left to the States and municipalities to work out the funding of the remaining 25 per cent.

All industries discharging wastes into the Nation's waters must apply the "best practicable" control technology by July 1, 1977, and the "best available" technology by July 1, 1983.

OTHER PROVISIONS

The water pollution control measure would create a 15-member commission appointed by the Congress and the President to study the costs and benefits of achieving the 1977 and 1983 deadlines.

It would also permit groups or individual citizens to file suits to force the Environmental Protection Agency to enforce the law or to seek an injunction against continued pollution if they can prove a direct "interest" in the case.

It would further establish a separate permit program for the disposal of dredged or fill material in the Nation's waters, to be administered by the Corps of Engineers. Under this program, permits would be issued for the disposal of dredged material at specified sites. The sites would be selected in compliance with guidelines developed by EPA in conjunction with the Corps of Engineers. The EPA Administrator is empowered to forbid or restrict the use of specified areas whenever he determines that disposal would have an adverse effect on municipal water supplies, shellfish, fishing areas, or recreational activities in a given site.

Early this year I introduced a bill which would have banned the dumping of any dredged material in the Great Lakes. I also authored a bill banning any ocean dumping. I say the water pollution cleanup must go forward.

(over)



WAYS AND MEANS PANEL APPROVES MY NONPUBLIC SCHOOL BILL

The House Ways and Means Committee last week approved my nonpublic school bill in virtually the same form in which I had introduced it last February.

The bill provides a tax credit up to \$200 per pupil for 50 per cent of the tuition a parent pays to a nonprofit nonpublic school which does not practice racial discrimination. My original bill called for a tax credit up to \$400 per pupil on a 50 per cent basis.

The committee-approved tax credit bill would affect five million children in nonpublic schools--more than nine out of 10 of them enrolled in religious-affiliated schools. The tax credit would start phasing out for parents with income of \$18,000 a year and would be eliminated for those with adjusted gross incomes of \$22,000 and one child.

Parents who send their children to nonprofit nonpublic schools deserve relief from the dual school expense burden they are carrying. And they are entitled to the freedom to send their children to the school of their choice.

HOUSE PASSES TOUGH ANTI-SKYJACKING BILL

By a vote of 354 to 2, the House last week passed an Anti-Skyjacking Act authorizing the President to suspend U. S. air service to any nation encouraging skyjacking and to bar foreign airlines from U. S. airfields if these airlines do not maintain adequate security measures as set by the Hague Convention on international civil aviation.

Besides getting tough with other nations and foreign airlines, the bill provides the death penalty for a skyjacker if a jury so recommends or, in the absence of the death penalty, 20 years in prison.

This legislation is of the greatest importance in our efforts to halt the growing menace of air piracy.

We will not be able to end skyjacking until every potential skyjacker realizes that he will be dealt with severely and that he will have no place to hide if he commits this heinous crime.

HOUSE VOTES TO EXTEND F.H.A. PROGRAMS

The House voted last week to extend existing Federal insurance of home loans and mortgages until June 30, 1973. This action became necessary when the House Rules Committee refused to clear a \$10.6 billion omnibus housing bill for House floor action--and after the F.H.A. programs lapsed. The House action must be matched by the Senate to get the F.H.A. programs going again.

RAISE IN MEAT INSPECTION FEDERAL COST-SHARE KILLED

On a 172 to 169 roll call vote, the House killed a Senate-passed bill which would have increased the Federal cost-share of State meat inspection from 50 per cent to 80 per cent. I see no reason to increase the federal government's cost-share.

House members rejected the bill after first eliminating a provision banning Federal payments to states with labeling and marking standards different from the Federal. Michigan Agriculture Department officials were concerned about this provision. I was opposed to it because it would have undermined Michigan's higher meat standards.

'JANE FONDA BILL' FAILS TO GET TWO-THIRDS

Under a procedure requiring a two-thirds majority, the House last week failed to pass a bill which would have empowered the President to forbid Americans to travel to countries with which the United States was in armed conflict. The bill drew a majority--229 to 141--but did not get two-thirds approval. The measure became known as the Jane Fonda bill because it was aimed at Americans who travel to North Vietnam and become propaganda tools of Hanoi. I do not consider Jane Fonda's activities to be treasonous, but I voted for the bill because I do not believe such actions as Miss Fonda's are in the national interest.

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ITEM TRANSFER REFERENCE FORM

The item described below has been removed to:

New File Location: *Audio - Visual Materials*

Document Description: *Seven 8" x 10" black and white photographs, two graphs, used in Ford's Newsletter "Your Washington Review," 1972.*

Old File Location: *Ford Congressional Newsletter, "Your Washington Review," 1972*

By *Dennis M. Lakomy* Date *January 17, 1978*