

**The original documents are located in Box 14, folder “1974/12/07 HR17503 Rehabilitation Act and Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments” of the White House Records Office: Legislation Case Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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APPROVED  
DEC 7 - 1974

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
December 6, 1974

ACTION  
Last day: December 9

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

KEN COLT

SUBJECT:

Enrolled Bill H. R. 17503, Rehabilitation Act  
and Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments

*Posted  
12/9  
To Archives  
12/9*

BACKGROUND

On October 29, 1974, you returned to Congress unsigned H. R. 14225, the Rehabilitation Act and Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments and indicated that you regarded your disapproval as a "pocket veto." Congress disagreed, however, and both Houses voted to override it.

To avoid a situation in which the programs involved could have been disrupted while a dispute over the constitutionality of the veto override ensued, you indicated you would not disapprove identical legislation if Congress sent it to you. Subsequently, both Houses passed H. R. 17503, a repeat of H. R. 14225.

CURRENT SITUATION

The last day for action on H. R. 17503 is Monday, December 9. Given the unusual circumstances and your commitment not to disapprove it, you have two options as to how you would handle the bill. You could either sign it or let it become law without your signature; the latter usually occurs only in unusual circumstances. OMB reports that over the past fifty years Presidents have permitted few bills to become law without their signature -- only nine since 1950, of which four were public laws.



OPTIONS

1. Sign the bill.

Pro: Could be seen as Presidential recognition of the overwhelming support for this bill and be helpful in your relations with Congress.

Con: Could be construed as endorsement of the bill's provisions, which are the same as in the bill you vetoed.

2. Let the bill become law without your signature.

Pro: Would be recognition of the exceptional circumstances in this case. Also, your position is already on the public record with the message accompanying the identical bill you vetoed.

Con: Could be seen by some as hesitancy to take definite stand with respect to this bill.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Option 2. Let the bill become law without your signature.

OMB (Ash)  
Counsel's Office (Phil Areeda)  
Timmons  
Cole

DECISION

MEF Option 1 (signature)

\_\_\_\_\_ Option 2 (let it become law without your signature)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DEC 5 1974

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ~~ROY~~ L. ASH

SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill on Vocational Rehabilitation

This is in regard to your inquiry about the desirability of proposing a supplemental for "Rehabilitation Services," should you approve the reenacted Vocational Rehabilitation Bill.

It is not necessary to seek a supplemental appropriation in fiscal year 1975 because the increase in grant authority will not take effect until fiscal year 1976.

APPROVED  
DEC 7 - 1974

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

December 5, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill H.R. 17503 - Rehabilitation Act and  
Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments  
Sponsor - Rep. Brademas (D) Indiana and 2 others

Last Day for Action

December 9, 1974 - Monday

Purpose

Extends through fiscal year 1976 and increases the appropriation authorizations of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; mandates administration of the Act in the Office of the Secretary of HEW and amends the Act in other respects; expands the priority, scope, and income of the blind vendor program under the Randolph-Sheppard Act; authorizes a White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Let become law  
without signature

Discussion

On October 29, 1974, you vetoed H.R. 14225, the Rehabilitation Act and Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments bill, for reasons set forth in your veto message, copy attached. You requested the Secretary of HEW to work with Congressional leaders to develop an acceptable bill.

The bill was returned unsigned to the Congress when it was in recess, and you indicated that you regarded your disapproval as a "pocket veto."

Upon their return, the two Houses voted to override your veto (the Senate 90-1 and the House 398-7). The Congress adopted the position that by returning the bill, you had afforded it the opportunity to override your veto.

Subsequently, the Congress repassed the bill as H.R. 17503, which is identical with H.R. 14225, the earlier vetoed bill. The Congress took this action to remove any constitutional doubts about whether H.R. 14225 had in fact become law by its override of your veto. We understand that you authorized White House representatives to indicate your agreement with this course and your intention not to disapprove it again if it were presented to you in identical form.

Under the circumstances, we believe two questions arise with respect to the present enrolled bill:

(1) Should you sign it or should you let it become law without your signature?

(2) In either case, should you issue a statement on the bill which could, among other things, make such points as your reasons for not vetoing the bill again, your understanding of the constitutional status of the earlier bill, and your intention to seek amendments to the bill?

#### Signature vs. inaction

As a general matter, we believe strongly that a President should sign or veto a bill presented to him for action unless there are exceptional circumstances. This we view as sound practice, not a constitutional requirement. Over the past fifty years or more, Presidents have permitted very few bills to become law without their signature--only nine bills since 1950, of which four were public laws and five private laws. Three of the four public laws were in President Nixon's administration; one in President Truman's. The four bills are described briefly in Attachment "A".

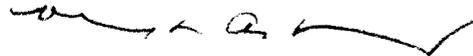
Moreover, signing the bill, rather than permitting it to become law without your signature, could be a plus in your relations with Congress, particularly since Congress has overwhelmingly endorsed this legislation three times.

On the other hand, it is true that exceptional circumstances exist in this case--you have already vetoed an identical bill with a message setting forth your reasons, so your position is on the public record. Your objections persist, but the override votes make it clear that another veto would be futile. Signature could be construed as endorsement of the bill's provisions and might, therefore, weaken the case for desirable amendments, which we believe should be proposed by the Administration.

On balance, we think this question is a close call but incline towards letting H.R. 17503 become law without your signature.

Statement

We do not recommend that you issue a statement in connection with your action on H.R. 17503. The passage of this bill has avoided a confrontation with Congress over the "pocket veto" issue and possible lengthy litigation. A statement could be counter-productive in these circumstances. However, we do recommend that the Secretary of HEW transmit a bill to the Congress proposing appropriate amendments to H.R. 17503 and at a subsequent time you might wish to endorse his proposal personally.



Director

Enclosures

BILLS WHICH BECAME PUBLIC LAWS WITHOUT  
THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT  
1950-1974

- S. 2681           An act to authorize the attendance of the United States Marine Band at a celebration commemorating the 175th anniversary of the Battle of Lexington, to be held at Lexington, Mass., Apr. 16 through 19, inclusive, 1950. (Became Public Law 81-450 without approval Feb. 26, 1950.)
- H.R. 5554           An act to make permanent the special milk program for children. (Became Public Law 91-295 without approval June 30, 1970.)
- H.R. 17795          An act to amend title VII of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, to provide an authorization for appropriations of \$1 billion for grants for basic water and sewer facilities. (Became Public Law 91-431 without approval Oct. 6, 1970.)
- S. 2641           An act to confer jurisdiction upon the court of the United States of certain civil actions brought by the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, and for other purposes. (Became Public Law 93-199 without approval Dec. 18, 1973.)

ATTACHMENT "A"

*Orig. to -  
Karen Handicaps  
12-5-74  
5:00 p.m.*

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

December 5, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill H.R. 17503 - Rehabilitation Act and  
Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments  
Sponsor - Rep. Brademas (D) Indiana and 2 others

Last Day for Action

December 9, 1974 - Monday

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Extends through fiscal year 1976 and increases the appropriation authorizations of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; mandates administration of the Act in the Office of the Secretary of HEW and amends the Act in other respects; expands the priority, scope, and income of the blind vendor program under the Randolph-Sheppard Act; authorizes a White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Let become law  
without signature

Discussion

On October 29, 1974, you vetoed H.R. 14225, the Rehabilitation Act and Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments bill, for reasons set forth in your veto message, copy attached. You requested the Secretary of HEW to work with Congressional leaders to develop an acceptable bill.

The bill was returned unsigned to the Congress when it was in recess, and you indicated that you regarded your disapproval as a "pocket veto."

## Veto of Rehabilitation Act Amendments

*The President's Message to the House of Representatives  
Returning H.R. 14225 Without His Approval.*

*October 29, 1974*

*To the House of Representatives:*

I am today returning, without my approval, H.R. 14225, the Rehabilitation Act and Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments of 1974, and the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals Act. I am advised by the Attorney General and I have determined that the absence of my signature from this bill prevents it from becoming law. Without in any way qualifying this determination, I am also returning it without my approval to those designated by Congress to receive messages at this time.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Amendments of 1974 pose some fundamental issues which far transcend this particular bill. No group in our country is more in need of supportive services than the Handicapped. Our handicapped citizens have demonstrated time and again that, given a fair break, they can lead as full and productive lives as other citizens.

Throughout my years in Congress I consistently supported good Federal programs designed to assist the handicapped.

During the last two years spending on the basic grant programs for Vocational Rehabilitation has grown from \$589 million to \$680 million. The key issue posed by this bill is not how much money will be spent. The issue posed is how well the programs will be run.

This bill passed the House of Representatives without any hearings. Had hearings been held we would have explained the disruption that would result from such a massive legislative incursion into the administration of a program.

The Congress has the responsibility to legislate, but I have the responsibility for the successful administration of the programs they enact. This bill is an attempt to administer through legislation. It transfers a program from one part of HEW to another for no good reason—indeed for very bad reasons. It dictates where in HEW minute decisions must be made, it creates independent organizational units at subordinate levels that are wasteful and

duplicative and it sets up a monitoring process for the construction and modernization of Federal facilities that would force me to create a new 250-man bureaucracy in HEW to duplicate functions carried out elsewhere in the Executive Branch. Most importantly, the bill blurs accountability. I cannot be responsible for the good management of all Federal programs if I cannot hold my Cabinet Secretaries accountable. Under this legislation accountability would be diffused. I find myself obliged to return to the Congress unsigned a bill that would disrupt existing Federal programs and ill serve the needs of our Nation's handicapped citizens. The present Vocational Rehabilitation legislation does not expire until mid 1975.

Plenty of time remains for us to work out a bill which will improve Federal programs for the handicapped rather than create the disruptions that will inevitably result from this hastily drawn piece of legislation. I have requested HEW Secretary Weinberger to meet with congressional leaders immediately upon their return to initiate this process.

GERALD R. FORD

The White House,  
October 29, 1974.

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.: 764

Date: December 5, 1974

Time: 5:30 p.m.

FOR ACTION: Pam Needham  
Bill Timmons *o.k.*  
Phil Areeda *a.t.*

cc (for information): Warren Hendriks  
Jerry Jones

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: *Fri.*

Time: *1:00 p.m.*

SUBJECT:

Enrolled Bill H.R. 17503 - Rehabilitation Act and  
Randolph Sheppard Act Amendments

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

~~The attached is for your information.~~

*Pam N. doing decision memo*

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

\_\_\_\_\_  
K. R. COLE, JR.  
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.: 764

Date: December 5, 1974

Time: 5:30 p.m.

FOR ACTION: Pam Needham  
Bill Timmons  
Phil Areeda ✓

cc (for information): Warren Hendriks  
Jerry Jones

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: December 6, 1974

Time: 1:00 p.m.

SUBJECT:

Enrolled Bill H.R. 17503 - Rehabilitation Act and  
Randolph Sheppard Act Amendments

ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- For Your Recommendations
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- Draft Reply
- For Your Comments
- Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor, West Wing

*Let become law without  
signature  
P. Areeda*

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Warren K. Hendriks, Jr.  
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 6, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. WARREN HENDRIKS

FROM: WILLIAM E. TIMMONS *WT*

SUBJECT: Action Memorandum - Log No. 764  
Enrolled Bill H.R. 17503 - Rehabilitation  
Act and Randolph Sheppard Act Amendments

The Office of Legislative Affairs concurs in the attached proposal and has no additional recommendations.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
December 6, 1974

ACTION

Last day: December 9

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

KEN COLLE

SUBJECT:

Enrolled Bill H. R. 17503, Rehabilitation Act  
and Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments

BACKGROUND

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OPTIONS

1. Sign the bill.

Pro: Could be seen as Presidential recognition of the overwhelming support for this bill and be helpful in your relations with Congress.

Con: Could be construed as endorsement of the bill's provisions, which are the same as in the bill you vetoed.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

- Option 2. Let the bill become law without your signature.

OMB (Ash)  
Counsel's Office (Phil Areeda)  
Timmons  
Cole

DECISION

\_\_\_\_\_ Option 1 (signature)

\_\_\_\_\_ Option 2 (let it become law without your signature)

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

12.5.74

TO: Warren Hendricks

For Your Information: \_\_\_\_\_

For Appropriate Handling:  \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*RDL*  
Robert D. Linder

# Ninety-third Congress of the United States of America

## AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the twenty-first day of January,  
one thousand nine hundred and seventy-four*

### An Act

To extend the authorizations of appropriations in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 for one year, to transfer the Rehabilitation Services Administration to the Office of the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, to make certain technical and clarifying amendments, and for other purposes; to amend the Randolph-Sheppard Act for the blind; to strengthen the program authorized thereunder; and to provide for the convening of a White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

##### SHORT TITLE

SEC. 100. This title shall be known as the "Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1974".

##### REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 101. (a) Section 3(a) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is amended to read as follows:

"(a) There is established in the Office of the Secretary a Rehabilitation Services Administration which shall be headed by a Commissioner (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the 'Commissioner') appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. Except for titles IV and V and as otherwise specifically provided in this Act, such Administration shall be the principal agency, and the Commissioner shall be the principal officer, of such Department for carrying out this Act. In the performance of his functions, the Commissioner shall be directly responsible to the Secretary or to the Under Secretary or an appropriate Assistant Secretary of such Department, as designated by the Secretary. The functions of the Commissioner shall not be delegated to any officer not directly responsible, both with respect to program operation and administration, to the Commissioner."

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) of this section shall be effective sixty days after the date of enactment of this Act.

##### EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

SEC. 102. (a) Section 100(b) of such Act is amended by—

(1) striking out "and" after "1974," in paragraph (1) and inserting before the period at the end of such paragraph a comma and "and \$720,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976"; and

(2) striking out "and" after "1974," in the first sentence of paragraph (2) and inserting after "1975," in such sentence "and \$42,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976;"

(b) Section 112(a) of such Act is amended by striking out "and" after "1974," and by inserting "and up to \$2,500,000 but no less than \$1,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976," after "1975,"

(c) Section 121(b) of such Act is amended by striking out "1976" and inserting in lieu thereof "1977".

##### EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING

SEC. 103. Section 201(a) of such Act is amended by—

(1) striking out "and" after "1974," in the first sentence of para-

graph (1) and inserting after "1975" in such sentence a comma and "and \$32,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976";

(2) striking out the comma after "20 per centum" in the second sentence of paragraph (1) and inserting after "respectively," in such sentence "and 25 per centum of the amounts appropriated in each succeeding fiscal year"; and

(3) striking out "there is authorized to be appropriated" in paragraph (2) and inserting after "1975" in such paragraph a comma and "and \$32,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976".

EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR GRANTS FOR  
CONSTRUCTION OF REHABILITATION FACILITIES

SEC. 104. Section 301(a) of such Act is amended by—

(1) striking out "and" after "1974," in the first sentence and inserting before the period at the end of such sentence a comma and "and June 30, 1976"; and

(2) striking out "1977" in the last sentence and inserting in lieu thereof "1978".

EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR VOCATIONAL  
TRAINING SERVICES FOR HANDICAPPED INDIVIDUALS

SEC. 105. Section 302(a) of such Act is amended by striking out "and" after "1974," and by inserting after "1975" a comma and "and June 30, 1976".

EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR SPECIAL  
PROJECTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

SEC. 106. Section 304(a)(1) of such Act is amended by striking out "and" after "1974," and by inserting after "1975" a comma and "and \$20,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976".

EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR NATIONAL  
CENTER FOR DEAF-BLIND YOUTHS AND ADULTS

SEC. 107. Section 305(a) of such Act is amended by striking out "and" after "1974," and by inserting after "1975" a comma and "and June 30, 1976".

EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR PROGRAM AND  
PROJECT EVALUATION

SEC. 108. Section 403 of such Act is amended by striking out "and" after "1974," and by inserting after "1975," the following: "and June 30, 1976".

EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR  
SECRETARIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

SEC. 109. Section 405(d) of such Act is amended by inserting before the period a comma and "and \$600,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976".

EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR ARCHITECTURAL  
AND TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS COMPLIANCE BOARD

SEC. 110. Section 502(h) of such Act is amended by inserting before the period at the end thereof a comma and "and \$1,500,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976".

## MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS

SEC. 111. (a) Section 7(6) of such Act is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: "For the purposes of titles IV and V of this Act, such term means any person who (A) has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of such person's major life activities, (B) has a record of such an impairment, or (C) is regarded as having such an impairment."

(b) Section 101(a)(6) of such Act is amended by adding at the end thereof before the semicolon "(including a requirement that the State agency and facilities in receipt of assistance under this title shall take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified handicapped individuals covered under, and on the same terms and conditions as set forth in, section 503)".

(c) Section 101(a)(9)(C) of such Act is amended by adding at the end thereof before the semicolon "in such detail as required by the Secretary in order for him to analyze and evaluate annually the reasons for and numbers of such ineligibility determinations as part of his responsibilities under section 401, and that the State agency will at least annually categorize and analyze such reasons and numbers and report this information to the Secretary and will, not later than 12 months after each such determination, review each such ineligibility determination in accordance with the criteria set forth in section 102".

(d) Section 101(a)(15) of such Act is amended by inserting after "facilities" at the end of the parenthetical "and review of the efficacy of the criteria employed with respect to ineligibility determinations described in subclause (C) of clause (9) of this subsection".

(e) Section 102 of such Act is amended by—

(1) inserting in subsection (a) after "program" where it first appears in the first sentence a comma and "or the specification of reasons for a determination of ineligibility prior to initiation of such program based on preliminary diagnosis," and inserting at the end of the second sentence of such subsection before the period a comma and "and, as appropriate, such specification of reasons for such an ineligibility determination shall set forth the rights and remedies, including recourse to the process set forth in subsection (b)(5) of this section, available to the individual in question";

(2) striking out in subsection (c) all of clause (1) from "in" the first time it appears through "primary" and inserting in lieu thereof "in making any determination of ineligibility referred to in subsection (a) of this section, or in developing and carrying out the individualized written rehabilitation program required by section 101 in the case of each handicapped individual,";

(3) striking out in clause (2) of subsection (c) "program, that the evaluation of rehabilitation potential" and inserting in lieu thereof "program, or as a part of the specification of reasons for an ineligibility determination, as appropriate, that the preliminary diagnosis or evaluation of rehabilitation potential, as appropriate,"; and

(4) inserting in clause (3) of subsection (c) a comma and "as an amendment to such written program," after "decision".

(f) Section 112(a) is amended by—

(1) striking out "an amount equal to the amount obligated for expenditure for carrying out such projects and demonstrations for appropriations under the Vocational Rehabilitation Act in

the fiscal year ending June 30, 1973," and inserting in lieu thereof "\$11,860,000"; and

(2) adding at the end thereof a new sentence as follows: "In the event that funds so appropriated under section 304 do not exceed \$11,860,000 in any fiscal year, the Secretary is authorized to utilize such funds to carry out this section".

(g) Section 130(b) of such Act is amended by striking out "February 1, 1975" and inserting in lieu thereof "June 30, 1975".

(h) Section 202(a) of such Act is amended by striking out "and analyses" in the penultimate clause and inserting in lieu thereof a comma and "analyses, and demonstrations".

(i) Section 304(b) of such Act is amended by—

(1) striking out "and" before "(2)" in the first sentence, and inserting at the end of such sentence before the period a comma and "and (3) for operating programs (including renovation and construction of facilities, where appropriate) to demonstrate methods of making recreational activities fully accessible to handicapped individuals"; and

(2) striking out "for" the third time it appears in the parenthetical in clause (2) in the first sentence and inserting in lieu thereof "or".

(j) Section 304(e) of such Act is amended by inserting after "Labor," in the first sentence "who".

(k) Section 304(e) (1) of such Act is amended by inserting after "(B)" the following: "with the concurrence of the Board established by section 502".

(1) (1) Section 306(b) of such Act is amended by inserting after "project" a comma and "or for a project which involves construction,".

(2) Section 306(b) (4) of such Act is amended by inserting after "specifications" the following: "which have been approved by the Board established by section 502,".

(m) Section 405(c) of such Act is amended by—

(1) striking out "the Handicapped" and inserting in lieu thereof "Handicapped Individuals"; and

(2) by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: "In no event shall any functions under this section be further delegated to any persons with operational responsibilities for carrying out functions authorized under any other section of this Act or under any other provision of law designed to benefit handicapped individuals."

(n) (1) Section 502(a) of such Act is amended by redesignating clauses (6), (7), and (8) thereof as clauses (7), (8), and (9), respectively, and by inserting immediately after clause (5) the following new clause:

"(6) Department of Defense;".

(2) Section 502(a) of such Act is further amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: "The Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare shall be the Chairman of the Board, and the Board shall appoint, upon recommendation of the Secretary, a Consumer Advisory Panel, a majority of the members of which shall be handicapped individuals, to provide guidance, advice, and recommendations to the Board in carrying out its functions."

(o) (1) Section 502(d) of such Act is amended by striking out "section, the Board" in the first sentence and inserting in lieu thereof "Act, the Board shall, directly or through grants to or contracts with public or private nonprofit organizations, carry out its functions under subsections (b) and (c) of this section, and".

(2) Section 502(d) of such Act is further amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentences: "Any such order affecting any Federal department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States shall be final and binding on such department, agency, or instrumentality. An order of compliance may include the withholding or suspension of Federal funds with respect to any building found not to be in compliance with standards prescribed pursuant to the Acts cited in subsection (b) of this section."

(p) Section 502(e) of such Act is amended by adding before the first sentence the following new first sentence: "There shall be appointed by the Board an executive director and such other professional and clerical personnel as are necessary to carry out its functions under this Act."

(q) Section 502(g) of such Act is amended by striking out in the penultimate sentence "prior to January 1" and inserting in lieu thereof "not later than September 30".

## TITLE II—RANDOLPH-SHEPPARD ACT AMENDMENTS

### SHORT TITLE

SEC. 200. This title may be cited as the "Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments of 1974".

### FINDINGS

SEC. 201. The Congress finds—

(1) after review of the operation of the blind vending stand program authorized under the Randolph-Sheppard Act of June 20, 1936, that the program has not developed, and has not been sustained, in the manner and spirit in which the Congress intended at the time of its enactment, and that, in fact, the growth of the program has been inhibited by a number of external forces;

(2) that the potential exists for doubling the number of blind operators on Federal and other property under the Randolph-Sheppard program within the next five years, provided the obstacles to growth are removed, that legislative and administrative means exist to remove such obstacles, and that Congress should adopt legislation to that end; and

(3) that at a minimum the following actions must be taken to insure the continued vitality and expansion of the Randolph-Sheppard program—

(A) establish uniformity of treatment of blind vendors by all Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities,

(B) establish guidelines for the operation of the program by State licensing agencies,

(C) require coordination among the several entities with responsibility for the program,

(D) establish a priority for vending facilities operated by blind vendors on Federal property,

(E) establish administrative and judicial procedures under which fair treatment of blind vendors, State licensing agencies, and the Federal Government is assured,

(F) require stronger administration and oversight functions in the Federal office carrying out the program, and

(G) accomplish other legislative and administrative objectives which will permit the Randolph-Sheppard program to flourish.

OPERATION OF VENDING FACILITIES ON FEDERAL PROPERTY

SEC. 202. The first section of the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the operation of stands in Federal buildings by blind persons, to enlarge the economic opportunities of the blind, and for other purposes" (hereafter referred to in this title as the "Randolph-Sheppard Act"), approved June 20, 1936, as amended (20 U.S.C. 107), is amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"That (a) for the purposes of providing blind persons with remunerative employment, enlarging the economic opportunities of the blind, and stimulating the blind to greater efforts in striving to make themselves self-supporting, blind persons licensed under the provisions of this Act shall be authorized to operate vending facilities on any Federal property.

"(b) In authorizing the operation of vending facilities on Federal property, priority shall be given to blind persons licensed by a State agency as provided in this Act; and the Secretary, through the Commissioner, shall, after consultation with the Administrator of General Services and other heads of departments, agencies, or instrumentalities of the United States in control of the maintenance, operation, and protection of Federal property, prescribe regulations designed to assure that—

"(1) the priority under this subsection is given to such licensed blind persons (including assignment of vending machine income pursuant to section 7 of this Act to achieve and protect such priority), and

"(2) wherever feasible, one or more vending facilities are established on all Federal property to the extent that any such facility or facilities would not adversely affect the interests of the United States.

Any limitation on the placement or operation of a vending facility based on a finding that such placement or operation would adversely affect the interests of the United States shall be fully justified in writing to the Secretary, who shall determine whether such limitation is justified. A determination made by the Secretary pursuant to this provision shall be binding on any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States affected by such determination. The Secretary shall publish such determination, along with supporting documentation, in the Federal Register."

FEDERAL AND STATE RESPONSIBILITIES

SEC. 203. (a) (1) Section 2(a) of the Randolph-Sheppard Act is amended by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (5) as paragraphs (2) through (6), respectively, and by inserting the following new paragraph (1):

"(1) Insure that the Rehabilitation Services Administration is the principal agency for carrying out this Act; and the Commissioner shall, within one hundred and eighty days after enactment of the Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments of 1974, establish requirements for the uniform application of this Act by each State agency designated under paragraph (5) of this subsection, including appropriate accounting procedures, policies on the selection and establishment of new vending facilities, distribution of income to blind vendors, and the use and control of set-aside funds under section 3(3) of this Act;"

(2) Section 2(a) (2) of such Act, as redesignated by paragraph (1) of this subsection, is amended to read as follows:

“(2) Through the Commissioner, make annual surveys of concession vending opportunities for blind persons on Federal and other property in the United States, particularly with respect to Federal property under the control of the General Services Administration, the Department of Defense, and the United States Postal Service;”.

(3) Section 2(a)(5) of such Act, as redesignated by paragraph (1) of this subsection, is amended—

(A) by striking out “commission” each place it appears and inserting in lieu thereof “agency”,

(B) by striking out “and at least twenty-one years of age”,

(C) by striking out “articles dispensed automatically or in containers or wrapping in which they are placed before receipt by the vending stand, and such other articles as may be approved for each property by the department or agency in control of the maintenance, operation, and protection thereof and the State licensing agency in accordance with the regulations prescribed pursuant to the first section” and inserting in lieu thereof the following: “foods, beverages, and other articles or services dispensed automatically or manually and prepared on or off the premises in accordance with all applicable health laws, as determined by the State licensing agency, and including the vending or exchange of chances for any lottery authorized by State law and conducted by an agency of a State”,

(D) by striking out “stands” and “stand” and inserting in lieu thereof “facilities” and “facility”, respectively, and

(E) by striking out the colon and all matter following the colon, and inserting in lieu thereof “; and”.

(4) Section 2(a)(6) of such Act, as redesignated by paragraph (1) of this subsection, is amended to read as follows:

“(6) Through the Commission, (A) conduct periodic evaluations of the program authorized by this Act, including upward mobility and other training required by section 8, and annually submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report based on such evaluations, and (B) take such other steps, including the issuance of such rules and regulations, as may be necessary or desirable in carrying out the provisions of this Act.”

(b) Section 2(b) of such Act is amended—

(1) by striking out “stand” the first time it appears in the first sentence and where it appears in the second sentence and inserting in lieu thereof “facility”;

(2) by striking out “and have resided for at least one year in the State in which such stand is located”; and

(3) by striking out “but are able, in spite of such infirmity, to operate such stands”.

(c) Section 2(c) of such Act is amended by striking out “stand” in each place in which it appears and inserting in lieu thereof “facility”.

(d) Section 2 of such Act is further amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsections:

“(d) (1) After January 1, 1975, no department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States shall undertake to acquire by ownership, rent, lease, or to otherwise occupy, in whole or in part, any building unless, after consultation with the head of such department, agency, or instrumentality and the State licensing agency, it is determined by the Secretary that (A) such building includes a satisfactory site or sites for the location and operation of a vending facility by a blind person, or (B) if a building is to be constructed, substantially altered, or renovated, or in the case of a building that is already occupied on such date by such department, agency, or instrumentality,

is to be substantially altered or renovated for use by such department, agency, or instrumentality, the design for such construction, substantial alteration, or renovation includes a satisfactory site or sites for the location and operation of a vending facility by a blind person. Each such department, agency, or instrumentality shall provide notice to the appropriate State licensing agency of its plans for occupation, acquisition, renovation, or relocation of a building adequate to permit such State agency to determine whether such building includes a satisfactory site or sites for a vending facility.

“(2) The provisions of paragraph (1) shall not apply (A) when the Secretary and the State licensing agency determine that the number of people using the property is or will be insufficient to support a vending facility, or (B) to any privately owned building, any part of which is leased by any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States and in which, (i) prior to the execution of such lease, the lessor or any of his tenants had in operation a restaurant or other food facility in a part of the building not included in such lease, and (ii) the operation of such a vending facility by a blind person would be in proximate and substantial direct competition with such restaurant or other food facility except that each such department, agency, and instrumentality shall make every effort to lease property in privately owned buildings capable of accommodating a vending facility.

“(3) For the purposes of this subsection, the term ‘satisfactory site’ means an area determined by the Secretary to have sufficient space, electrical and plumbing outlets, and such other facilities as the Secretary may by regulation prescribe, for the location and operation of a vending facility by a blind person.

“(e) In any State having an approved plan for vocational rehabilitation pursuant to the Vocational Rehabilitation Act or the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-112), the State licensing agency designated under paragraph (5) of subsection (a) of this section shall be the State agency designated under section 101(a)(1)(A) of such Rehabilitation Act of 1973.”

#### DUTIES OF STATE LICENSING AGENCIES AND ARBITRATION

SEC. 204. (a) Section 3 of the Randolph-Sheppard Act is amended—

(1) by striking out “commission” and inserting in lieu thereof “agency”;

(2) by striking out in paragraphs (2) and (3) “stand” and “stands” wherever such terms appear and inserting in lieu thereof “facility” and “facilities”, respectively; and

(3) by striking out in paragraph (6) the word “stand” and inserting in lieu thereof “facility”, and, by inserting immediately before the period the following: “, and to agree to submit the grievances of any blind licensee not otherwise resolved by such hearing to arbitration as provided in section 5 of this Act”.

(b) Section 3(3) of such Act is further amended by striking out “and” immediately before subparagraph (D) and by inserting immediately before the colon at the end of such subparagraph the following “; and (E) retirement or pension funds, health insurance contributions, and provision for paid sick leave and vacation time, if it is determined by a majority vote of blind licensees licensed by such State agency, after such agency provides to each such licensee full information on all matters relevant to such proposed program, that funds under this paragraph shall be set aside for such purposes”.

(c) Section 3(3) of such Act is further amended by inserting before the word “proceeds” in both places it appears, the word “net”.

REPEALS

SEC. 205. Sections 4 and 7 of the Randolph-Sheppard Act are repealed.

ARBITRATION ; VENDING MACHINE INCOME ; PERSONNEL ; TRAINING

SEC. 206. The Randolph-Sheppard Act is further amended by redesignating sections 5, 6, and 8, as sections 4, 9, and 10, respectively, and by inserting immediately after section 4, as redesignated, the following new sections:

“SEC. 5. (a) Any blind licensee who is dissatisfied with any action arising from the operation or administration of the vending facility program may submit to a State licensing agency a request for a full evidentiary hearing, which shall be provided by such agency in accordance with section 3(6) of this Act. If such blind licensee is dissatisfied with any action taken or decision rendered as a result of such hearing, he may file a complaint with the Secretary who shall convene a panel to arbitrate the dispute pursuant to section 6 of this Act, and the decision of such panel shall be final and binding on the parties except as otherwise provided in this Act.

“(b) Whenever any State licensing agency determines that any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States that has control of the maintenance, operation, and protection of Federal property is failing to comply with the provisions of this Act or any regulations issued thereunder (including a limitation on the placement or operation of a vending facility as described in section 1(b) of this Act and the Secretary’s determination thereon) such licensing agency may file a complaint with the Secretary who shall convene a panel to arbitrate the dispute pursuant to section 6 of this Act, and the decision of such panel shall be final and binding on the parties except as otherwise provided in this Act.

“SEC. 6. (a) Upon receipt of a complaint filed under section 5 of this Act, the Secretary shall convene an ad hoc arbitration panel as provided in subsection (b). Such panel shall, in accordance with the provisions of subchapter II of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, give notice, conduct a hearing, and render its decision which shall be subject to appeal and review as a final agency action for purposes of chapter 7 of such title 5.

“(b) (1) The arbitration panel convened by the Secretary to hear grievances of blind licensees shall be composed of three members appointed as follows:

“(A) one individual designated by the State licensing agency;

“(B) one individual designated by the blind licensee; and

“(C) one individual, not employed by the State licensing agency or, where appropriate, its parent agency, who shall serve as chairman, jointly designated by the members appointed under subparagraphs (A) and (B).

If any party fails to designate a member under subparagraph (1) (A), (B), or (C), the Secretary shall designate such member on behalf of such party.

“(2) The arbitration panel convened by the Secretary to hear complaints filed by a State licensing agency shall be composed of three members appointed as follows:

“(A) one individual, designated by the State licensing agency;

“(B) one individual, designated by the head of the Federal department, agency, or instrumentality controlling the Federal property over which the dispute arose; and

“(C) one individual, not employed by the Federal department, agency, or instrumentality controlling the Federal property over

which the dispute arose, who shall serve as chairman, jointly designated by the members appointed under subparagraphs (A) and (B).

If any party fails to designate a member under subparagraph (2) (A), (B), or (C), the Secretary shall designate such member on behalf of such party. If the panel appointed pursuant to paragraph (2) finds that the acts or practices of any such department, agency, or instrumentality are in violation of this Act, or any regulation issued thereunder, the head of any such department, agency, or instrumentality shall cause such acts or practices to be terminated promptly and shall take such other action as may be necessary to carry out the decision of the panel.

“(c) The decisions of a panel convened by the Secretary pursuant to this section shall be matters of public record and shall be published in the Federal Register.

“(d) The Secretary shall pay all reasonable costs of arbitration under this section in accordance with a schedule of fees and expenses he shall publish in the Federal Register.

“Sec. 7. (a) In accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, vending machine income obtained from the operation of vending machines on Federal property shall accrue (1) to the blind licensee operating a vending facility on such property, or (2) in the event there is no blind licensee operating such facility on such property, to the State agency in whose State the Federal property is located, for the uses designated in subsection (c) of this section, except that with respect to income which accrues under clause (1) of this subsection, the Commissioner may prescribe regulations imposing a ceiling on income from such vending machines for an individual blind licensee. In the event such a ceiling is imposed, no blind licensee shall receive less vending machine income under such ceiling than he was receiving on January 1, 1974. No limitation shall be imposed on income from vending machines, combined to create a vending facility, which are maintained, serviced, or operated by a blind licensee. Any amounts received by a blind licensee that are in excess of the amount permitted to accrue to him under any ceiling imposed by the Commissioner shall be disbursed to the appropriate State agency under clause (2) of this subsection and shall be used by such agency in accordance with subsection (c) of this section.

“(b)(1) After January 1, 1975, 100 per centum of all vending machine income from vending machines on Federal property which are in direct competition with a blind vending facility shall accrue as specified in subsection (a) of this section. ‘Direct competition’ as used in this section means the existence of any vending machines or facilities operated on the same premises as a blind vending facility except that vending machines or facilities operated in areas serving employees the majority of whom normally do not have direct access to the blind vending facility shall not be considered in direct competition with the blind vending facility. After January 1, 1975, 50 per centum of all vending machine income from vending machines on Federal property which are not in direct competition with a blind vending facility shall accrue as specified in subsection (a) of this section, except that with respect to Federal property at which at least 50 per centum of the total hours worked on the premises occurs during periods other than normal working hours, 30 per centum of such income shall so accrue.

“(2) The head of each department, agency, and instrumentality of the United States shall insure compliance with this section with respect to buildings, installations, and facilities under his control, and shall be responsible for collection of, and accounting for, such vending machine income.

“(c) All vending machine income which accrues to a State licensing agency pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be used to establish retirement or pension plans, for health insurance contributions, and for provision of paid sick leave and vacation time for blind licensees in such State, subject to a vote of blind licensees as provided under section 3(3)(E) of this Act. Any vending machine income remaining after application of the first sentence of this subsection shall be used for the purposes specified in sections 3(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D) of this Act, and any assessment charged to blind licensees by a State licensing agency shall be reduced pro rata in an amount equal to the total of such remaining vending machine income.

“(d) Subsections (a) and (b)(1) of this section shall not apply to income from vending machines within retail sales outlets under the control of exchange or ships’ stores systems authorized by title 10, United States Code, or to income from vending machines operated by the Veterans Canteen Service, or to income from vending machines not in direct competition with a blind vending facility at individual locations, installations, or facilities on Federal property the total of which at such individual locations, installations, or facilities does not exceed \$3,000 annually.

“(e) The Secretary, through the Commissioner, shall prescribe regulations to establish a priority for the operation of cafeterias on Federal property by blind licensees when he determines, on an individual basis and after consultation with the head of the appropriate installation, that such operation can be provided at a reasonable cost with food of a high quality comparable to that currently provided to employees, whether by contract or otherwise.

“(f) This section shall not operate to preclude preexisting or future arrangements, or regulations of departments, agencies, or instrumentalities of the United States, under which blind licensees (1) receive a greater percentage or amount of vending machine income than that specified in subsection (b)(1) of this section, or (2) receive vending machine income from individual locations, installations, or facilities on Federal property the total of which at such individual locations, installations, or facilities does not exceed \$3,000 annually.

“(g) The Secretary shall take such action and promulgate such regulations as he deems necessary to assure compliance with this section.

“SEC. 8. The Commissioner shall insure, through promulgation of appropriate regulations, that uniform and effective training programs, including on-the-job training, are provided for blind individuals, through services under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-112). He shall further insure that State agencies provide programs for upward mobility (including further education and additional training or retraining for improved work opportunities) for all trainees under this Act, and that follow-along services are provided to such trainees to assure that their maximum vocational potential is achieved.”

#### DEFINITIONS

SEC. 207. Section 9 of the Randolph-Sheppard Act, as redesignated by section 206 of this title, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 9. As used in the Act—

“(1) ‘blind person’ means a person whose central visual acuity does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye with correcting lenses or whose visual acuity, if better than 20/200, is accompanied by a limit to the field of vision in the better eye to such a degree that its widest diameter subtends an angle of no greater than twenty degrees. In determining whether an individual is blind, there shall be an examination by a physician skilled in diseases of the

eye, or by an optometrist, whichever the individual shall select;

“(2) ‘Commissioner’ means the Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration;

“(3) ‘Federal property’ means any building, land, or other real property owned, leased, or occupied by any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States (including the Department of Defense and the United States Postal Service), or any other instrumentality wholly owned by the United States, or by any department or agency of the District of Columbia or any territory or possession of the United States;

“(4) ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare;

“(5) ‘State’ means a State, territory, possession, Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia;

“(6) ‘United States’ includes the several States, territories, and possessions of the United States, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia;

“(7) ‘vending facility’ means automatic vending machines, cafeterias, snack bars, cart services, shelters, counters, and such other appropriate auxiliary equipment as the Secretary may by regulation prescribe as being necessary for the sale of the articles or services described in section 2(a)(5) of this Act and which may be operated by blind licensees; and

“(8) ‘vending machine income’ means receipts (other than those of a blind licensee) from vending machine operations on Federal property, after cost of goods sold (including reasonable service and maintenance costs), where the machines are operated, serviced, or maintained by, or with the approval of, a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States, or commissions paid (other than to a blind licensee) by a commercial vending concern which operates, services, and maintains vending machines on Federal property for, or with the approval of, a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States.”

PERSONNEL

SEC. 208. (a) The Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare is directed to assign to the Office for the Blind and Visually Handicapped of the Rehabilitation Services Administration of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare ten additional full-time personnel (or their equivalent), five of whom shall be supportive personnel, to carry out duties related to the administration of the Randolph-Sheppard Act.

(b) Section 5108(c) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking out “and” at the end of paragraph (10);

(2) by striking out the period at the end of paragraph (11) and inserting in lieu thereof “; and”; and

(3) by adding after paragraph (11) the following new paragraph:

“(12) the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, subject to the standards and procedures prescribed by this chapter, may place one additional position in the Office for the Blind and Visually Handicapped of the Rehabilitation Services Administration in GS-16, GS-17, or GS-18.”

(c) In selecting personnel to fill any position under this section, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare shall give preference to blind individuals.

(d) Section 4(b) of the Randolph-Sheppard Act, as redesignated by section 206 of this title, is amended by striking out “, and at least 50 per centum of such additional personnel shall be blind persons”.

ADDITIONAL STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

SEC. 209. In addition to other requirements imposed in this title and in the Randolph-Sheppard Act upon State licensing agencies, such agencies shall—

(1) provide to each blind licensee access to all relevant financial data, including quarterly and annual financial reports, on the operation of the State vending facility program;

(2) conduct the biennial election of a Committee of Blind Vendors who shall be fully representative of all blind licensees in the State program, and

(3) insure that such committee's responsibilities include (A) participation, with the State agency, in major administrative decisions and policy and program development, (B) receiving grievances of blind licensees and serving as advocates for such licensees, (C) participation, with the State agency, in the development and administration of a transfer and promotion system for blind licensees, (D) participation, with the State agency, in developing training and retraining programs, and (E) sponsorship, with the assistance of the State agency, of meetings and instructional conferences for blind licensees.

STANDARDS, STUDIES, AND REPORTS

SEC. 210. (a) The Secretary, through the Commissioner, after a period of study not to exceed six months following the date of enactment of this title, and after full consultation with, and full consideration of the views of, blind vendors and State licensing agencies, shall promulgate national standards for funds set aside pursuant to section 3(3) of the Randolph-Sheppard Act which include maximum and minimum amounts for such funds, and appropriate contributions, if any, to such funds by blind vendors.

(b)(1) The Secretary shall study the feasibility and desirability of establishing a nationally administered retirement, pension, and health insurance system for blind licensees, and such study shall include, but not be limited to, consideration of eligibility standards, amounts and sources of contributions, number of potential participants, total costs, and alternative forms of administration, including trust funds and revolving funds.

(2) The Secretary shall, within one year following the date of enactment of this title, complete the study required by paragraph (1) of this subsection and report his findings, together with any recommendations, to the President and the Congress.

(c) The Secretary shall, not later than September 30, 1975, complete an evaluation of the method of assigning vending machine income under section 7(b)(1) of the Randolph-Sheppard Act, including its effect on the growth of the program authorized by the Act, and on the operation of nonappropriated fund activities, and within thirty days thereafter he shall report his findings, together with any recommendations, to the appropriate committees of the Congress.

(d) Each State licensing agency shall, within one year following the date of enactment of this title, submit to the Secretary a report, with appropriate supporting documentation, which shows the actions taken by such agency to meet the requirements of section 2(a)(1) of the Randolph-Sheppard Act.

AUDIT

SEC. 211. The Comptroller General is authorized to conduct regular and periodic audits of all nonappropriated fund activities which receive income from vending machines on Federal property, under

such rules and regulations as he may prescribe. In the conduct of such audits he and his duly authorized representatives shall have access to any relevant books, documents, papers, accounts, and records of such activities as he deems necessary.

### TITLE III—WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON HANDICAPPED INDIVIDUALS

#### SHORT TITLE

SEC. 300. This title may be cited as the "White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals Act".

#### FINDINGS AND POLICY

SEC. 301. The Congress finds that—

(1) the United States has achieved great and satisfying success in making possible a better quality of life for a large and increasing percentage of our population;

(2) the benefits and fundamental rights of this society are often denied those individuals with mental and physical handicaps;

(3) there are seven million children and at least twenty-eight million adults with mental or physical handicaps;

(4) it is of critical importance to this Nation that equality of opportunity, equal access to all aspects of society and equal rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States be provided to all individuals with handicaps;

(5) the primary responsibility for meeting the challenge and problems of individuals with handicaps has often fallen on the individual or his family;

(6) it is essential that recommendations be made to assure that all individuals with handicaps are able to live their lives independently and with dignity, and that the complete integration of all individuals with handicaps into normal community living, working, and service patterns be held as the final objective; and

(7) all levels of Government must necessarily share responsibility for developing opportunities for individuals with handicaps;

and it is therefore the policy of the Congress that the Federal Government work jointly with the States and their citizens to develop recommendations and plans for action in solving the multifold problems facing individuals with handicaps.

#### AUTHORITY OF PRESIDENT, COUNCIL, AND SECRETARY

SEC. 302. (a) The President is authorized to call a White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals not later than two years after the date of enactment of this title in order to develop recommendations and stimulate a national assessment of problems, and solutions to such problems, facing individuals with handicaps. Such a conference shall be planned and conducted under the direction of the National Planning and Advisory Council, established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, and the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") and each Federal department and agency shall provide such cooperation and assistance to the Council, including the assignment of personnel, as may reasonably be required by the Secretary.

(b) (1) There is established a National Planning and Advisory Council (in this title referred to as the "Council"), appointed by the

Secretary, composed of twenty-eight members of whom not less than ten shall be individuals with handicaps appointed to represent all individuals with handicaps, and five shall be parents of individuals with handicaps appointed to represent all such parents and individuals. The Council shall provide guidance and planning for the Conference.

(2) Any member of the Council who is otherwise employed by the Federal Government shall serve without compensation in addition to that received in his regular employment.

(3) Members of the Council, other than those referred to in paragraph (1), shall receive compensation at rates not to exceed the daily rate prescribed for GS-18 under section 5332, title 5, United States Code, for each day they are engaged in the performance of their duties (including traveltime); and, while so serving away from their homes or regular places of business, they shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as the expenses authorized by section 5703, title 5, United States Code, for persons in Government service employed intermittently.

(4) Such Council shall cease to exist one-hundred and twenty days after the submission of the final report required by section 302(e).

(c) For the purpose of ascertaining facts and making recommendations concerning the utilization of skills, experience, and energies, and the improvement of the conditions of individuals with handicaps, the Conference shall bring together individuals with handicaps and members of their families and representatives of Federal, State, and local governments, professional experts, and members of the general public recognized by individuals with handicaps as being knowledgeable about problems affecting their lives.

(d) Participants in the White House Conference, and in conferences and other activities leading up to the White House Conference at the local and State level are authorized to consider all matters related to the purposes of the Conference set forth in subsection (a), but shall give special consideration to recommendations for:

(1) providing education, health, and diagnostic services for all children early in life so that handicapping conditions may be discovered and treated;

(2) assuring that every individual with a handicap receives appropriately designed benefits of the educational system;

(3) assuring that individuals with handicaps have available to them all special services and assistance which will enable them to live their lives as fully and independently as possible;

(4) enabling individuals with handicaps to have access to usable communication services and devices at costs comparable to other members of the population;

(5) assuring that individuals with handicaps will have maximum mobility to participate in all aspects of society, including access to all publicly-assisted transportation services and, when necessary, alternative means of transportation at comparable cost;

(6) improving utilization and adaptation of modern engineering and other technology to ameliorate the impact of handicapping conditions on the lives of individuals and especially on their access to housing and other structures;

(7) assuring individuals with handicaps of equal opportunity with others to engage in gainful employment;

(8) enabling individuals with handicaps to have incomes sufficient for health and for participation in family and community life as self-respecting citizens;

(9) increasing research relating to all aspects of handicapping conditions, stressing the elimination of causes of handicapping conditions and the amelioration of the effects of such conditions;

(10) assuring close attention and assessment of all aspects of diagnosis and evaluation of individuals with handicaps;

(11) assuring review and evaluation of all governmental programs in areas affecting individuals with handicaps, and a close examination of the public role in order to plan for the future;

(12) resolving the special problems of veterans with handicaps;

(13) resolving the problems of public awareness and attitudes that restrict individuals with handicaps from participating in society to their fullest extent;

(14) resolving the special problems of individuals with handicaps who are homebound or institutionalized;

(15) resolving the special problems of individuals with handicaps who have limited English-speaking ability;

(16) allotting funds for basic vocational rehabilitation services under part B of title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 in a fair and equitable manner in consideration of the factors set forth in section 407 (a) of such Act; and

(17) promoting other related matters for individuals with handicaps.

(e) A final report of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals shall be submitted by the Council to the President not later than one hundred and twenty days following the date on which the conference is called, and the findings and recommendations included therein shall be immediately made available to the public. The Council and the Secretary shall, within ninety days after the submission of such final report, transmit to the President and the Congress their recommendations for administrative action and legislation necessary to implement the recommendations contained in such report.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNCIL AND SECRETARY

SEC. 303. (a) In carrying out the provisions of this title, the Council and the Secretary shall—

(1) request the cooperation and assistance of such other Federal departments and agencies as may be appropriate, including Federal advisory bodies having responsibilities in areas affecting individuals with handicaps;

(2) render all reasonable assistance, including financial assistance, to the States in enabling them to organize and conduct conferences on handicapped individuals prior to the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals;

(3) prepare and make available necessary background materials for the use of delegates to the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals;

(4) prepare and distribute such interim reports of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals as may be appropriate; and

(5) engage such individuals with handicaps and additional personnel as may be necessary without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive civil service, and without regard to chapter 57 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, but at rates of pay not to exceed the rate prescribed for GS-18 under section 5332 of such title.

(b) In carrying out the provisions of this title, the Secretary shall employ individuals with handicaps.

H. R. 17503—17

DEFINITION

SEC. 304. For the purpose of this title, the term "State" includes the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

STATE PARTICIPATION

SEC. 305. (a) From the sums appropriated pursuant to section 306 the Secretary is authorized to make a grant to each State, upon application of the chief executive thereof, in order to assist in meeting the costs of that State's participation in the Conference program, including the conduct of at least one conference within each such State.

(b) Grants made pursuant to subsection (a) shall be made only with the approval of the Council.

(c) Funds appropriated for the purposes of this subsection shall be apportioned among the States by the Secretary in accordance with their respective needs for assistance under this subsection, except that no State shall be apportioned more than \$25,000 nor less than \$10,000.

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 306. There are authorized to be appropriated, without fiscal year limitations, \$2,000,000 to carry out the provisions of this title and such additional sums as may be necessary to carry out section 305. Sums so appropriated shall remain available for expenditure until June 30, 1977.

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

*Vice President of the United States and  
President of the Senate.*

November 27, 1974

Dear Mr. Director:

The following bills were received at the White House on November 27th:

- S. 3202 ✓
- H.R. 342 ✓
- H.R. 15580 ✓
- H.R. 17503 ✓

Please let the President have reports and recommendations as to the approval of these bills as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Linder  
Chief Executive Clerk

The Honorable Roy L. Ash  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, D. C.