

# WASHINGTON REVIEW

*A Report  
From Your Congressman*



*Serving  
Kent and Ionia Counties*

**JERRY FORD**

January 31, 1972

NOT PRINTED AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE

## SECOND SESSION OF CONGRESS OFF TO A GOOD START

The second session of the 92nd Congress got under way rapidly. Both the House and Senate went to work immediately, taking up where they left off last year.

Even before receiving the President's State of the Union Message, the House approved the final version of election campaign reform legislation which had previously been passed by the Senate and sent it to the President for his signature. This legislation is the first major overhaul of campaign spending laws in 46 years.

I strongly supported the campaign reform legislation, which passed on a 334 to 19 roll call vote.

The Senate began debate on legislation to broaden the powers of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. The issue was whether the commission should have the power to issue cease and desist orders or should go into court to enforce its rulings. The House has approved a bill requiring the commission to get court enforcement of its edicts.

## CAMPAIGN REFORM BADLY NEEDED

There is no over-emphasizing the importance of the election campaign reform legislation. Much needed, it replaces a law which is completely outmoded and has been on the books since 1925.

The new law limits campaign spending by a congressional candidate to 10 cents per voting age person in the district or \$50,000, whichever is greater. This can be used for advertising and paid telephone campaigns. Of the total, only 60 per cent can be used for radio and television advertising.

In the case of presidential candidates, the limitation in the new law becomes \$13.9 million. Of that total, roughly \$8.4 million can be spent on radio and television.

Looking to the future, the new law provides for increases in campaign spending limitations tied to rises in costs.

The new law goes into effect 60 days after the legislation is signed by the President.

## HOUSE O.K.'S DELEGATES FOR GUAM, VIRGIN ISLANDS

The House at long last has voted to give the unincorporated territories of Guam and the Virgin Islands one non-voting delegate each in the House of Representatives. These territories have been seeking this right since the 84th Congress.

The vote on the legislation was 232 to 104. I voted for it because I believe the people living in these territories should have an elected spokesman who can participate in the legislative process in Congress--on a non-voting basis--and make sure that Congress properly considers the interests of Guam and the Virgin Islands.

Guam's population is about 87,000. That of the Virgin Islands is roughly 64,000. This is more than the population of many of our territories which sent delegates to the House earlier in our history.

The United States acquired the Virgin Islands in 1916. Guam came to the United States in 1898 under the treaty which ended the Spanish-American War.

At the present time the House has a non-voting Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico and a non-voting delegate from the District of Columbia.

## PRESIDENT SETS RIGHT TONE FOR SECOND SESSION

The President set exactly the right tone for the second session of the 92nd Congress when he kept his State of the Union Message absolutely non-political.

The main thrust of the State of the Union Message was a plea to the Democrats, who control the Congress, to lay aside partisanship for the duration of the session and to join with the President in enacting major new laws for the good of the Nation.

It remains to be seen whether the Democrats will heed this appeal.

Because there are 90 Administration measures still awaiting congressional approval, the President kept new initiatives to a minimum.

One initiative is a proposed partnership between the Federal Government and the private sector to develop new technology for the betterment of the American people.

Another was a proposal, yet to be shaped in detail, to substitute Federal fund-raising for the local school property tax.

I heartily approve of both initiatives, although I am reserving judgment on any new Federal tax. I certainly do not believe there should be any new Federal taxes this year when we are seeking vigorously to move the economy forward. I see near-future relief from increases in local property taxes coming from the President's proposal for Federal revenue sharing.

We must have relief from the local property tax burden by some means. I will support any proposal which is in the best interests of the taxpayer.

## I SIGN ANTI-BUSING DISCHARGE PETITION

At one point in his State of the Union Message the President said that "educational quality--so vital to the future of all of our children--is not enhanced by unnecessary busing for the sole purpose of achieving an arbitrary racial balance."

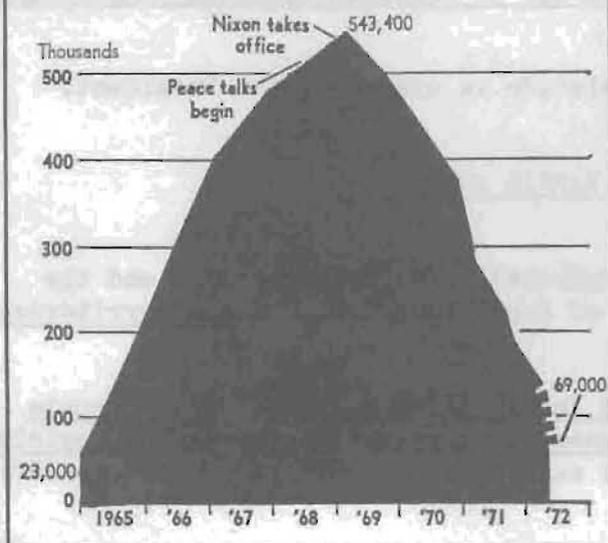
Last week I threw my weight behind a move to force a House vote on a proposed Constitutional Amendment which would rule out forced busing to achieve racial balance.

I signed a petition which would take away from the House Judiciary Committee and bring to the House floor a proposed Constitutional Amendment introduced by Rep. Norman F. Lent, R-N.Y.

This Constitutional Amendment provides that "no public school student shall, because of his race, creed, or color, be assigned to or required to attend a particular school." Sen. Robert Griffin has introduced an anti-busing Constitutional Amendment in the Senate.

Our concern should be with quality education, not with forced busing to achieve racial balance. I believe in the concept of the neighborhood school.

### **U.S. TROOPS IN SOUTH VIETNAM Build-up and Withdrawal**



**ENDING U.S. INVOLVEMENT** -- President Nixon has announced that U.S. troops in Vietnam will be drawn down to 69,000 by May 1. He has offered to withdraw all U.S. troops in exchange for an Indochina cease fire and release of all U.S. prisoners of war.

We need the names of 218 House members on the discharge petition before we can bring the Lent amendment up for a vote. This will not be easy. My name on the petition was 135.

Once we get a vote, we need two-thirds in both the House and Senate for approval and then the o.k. of three-fourths of the State Legislatures.

## PRESIDENT SETS RECORD STRAIGHT ON VIETNAM

President Nixon last week revealed the vigorous secret negotiations he has pursued in an effort to end the Vietnam War.

He has offered to negotiate with the North Vietnamese both on the military issues and a political settlement.

The possibility of movement toward an ultimate settlement appears to exist.

It may be, as the President said, that making his secret negotiations public will serve to break the deadlock that has blocked a settlement.

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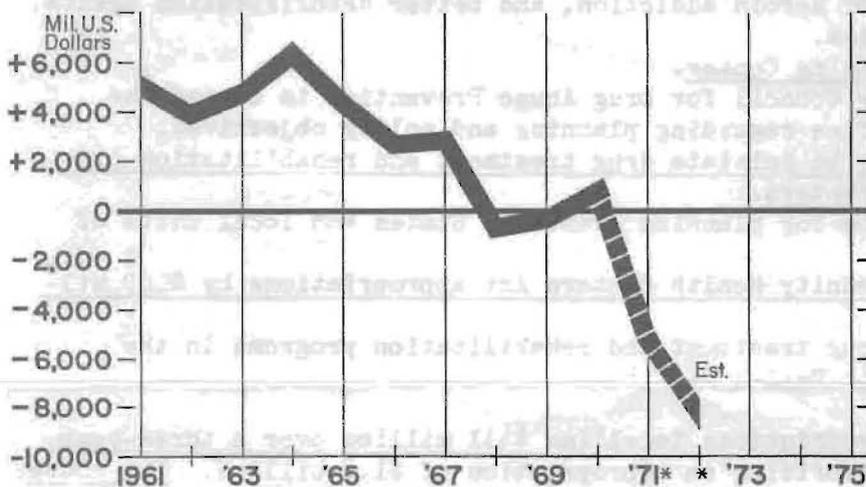
February 14, 1972

NOT PRINTED AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE

## CONGRESS VOTES DOCK STRIKE END

The House last week joined the Senate in approving what amounted to an insurance policy against continuation of the West Coast dock strike.

### UNITED STATES TRADE BALANCE



U.S. TRADE DOWN -- America's merchandise trade balance varies greatly from year to year but the basic trend has been down. The West Coast dock strike was most damaging. U.S. exports would have been about \$600 million higher in 1971 except for the strike.

Following up on Senate action, the House sent the President a bill providing for binding arbitration of the labor dispute should a tentative agreement between the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union and the Pacific Maritime Association fall through.

How urgent was it that we end the dock strike? American exports would have been \$600 million higher during the initial 100 days of the strike except for the work stoppage. During the June-September period, farm exports from the West Coast dropped from \$288 million in the same period in 1970 to \$73 million in 1971. Losses of port service industries were estimated at \$8 million a week; the loss to shippers at \$3 million a week; the loss in wages, \$410,000 a day.

The bill guarantees an end to the strike.

I argued hard for the arbitration bill because I felt a continuation of the dock strike was so damaging to the economy of the entire country that it could not be allowed.

Despite the opposition of Democratic leaders, the House voted 214 to 139 for binding arbitration. The House acted after receiving assurances from the President that he would wait to see whether the tentative labor-management agreement came unstuck.

The West Coast dock strike was complicated by a jurisdictional dispute between the Longshoremen and the Teamsters Union. Republicans told the House that this dispute threatened the tentative agreement reached by the Longshoremen and the Maritime Association and made the stand-by legislation mandatory.

The West Coast dock strike began last July 1 and lasted for 100 days until the President obtained an 80-day injunction under the Taft-Hartley Act and the men returned to work. The injunction expired Dec. 25 but the longshoremen kept working until Jan. 17 when they resumed the strike. On Jan. 21 the President asked Congress for legislation providing for binding arbitration to end the strike.

The legislation approved by Congress is similar to that of the President except that it lays down different rules for selecting the arbitration board.

## HOUSE APPROVES NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR ELDERLY

Convinced that the elderly have special nutritional problems, the House last week approved a bill to provide Americans 60 and over with one hot meal a day, five days a week.

The bill passed 350 to 23. I voted for it. I felt that if we are committed to better health for our elderly citizens, we should help provide them with a proper diet.

The House Education and Labor Committee said its hearings showed that as many as 30 per cent of the elderly live in poverty, many of them lack the skills to prepare nourishing meals for themselves, and many of them lack the mobility to shop and cook for themselves.

The elderly taking part in the nutrition projects authorized by the bill need not be impoverished but the heavy emphasis is on the poor. The program is to begin July 1, with Federal funds to pay 90 per cent of the cost. The local share can be "in kind" services.

The bill authorizes appropriations of \$100 million in fiscal 1973 and \$150 million in fiscal 1974.

#### HOUSE VOTES COORDINATED ATTACK ON DRUG ABUSE

The House has approved a bill which would mount a comprehensive, coordinated attack on drug abuse. It establishes a Special Action Office in the White House with authority over drug addict rehabilitation and treatment and drug abuse education. The bill also establishes a liaison between the Special Action Office and law enforcement groups concerned with the drug traffic.

Besides setting up the Special Action Office, the bill also would:

- \* Establish a Special Fund to be used by the Director to fund promising new concepts or methods for the treatment of drug addiction, as well as to expand existing activities that prove effective.
- \* Authorize \$45 million over two years to encourage and promote research, especially in the areas of nonaddictive synthetic analgesics, long-lasting nonaddictive blocking or antagonistic drugs for treatment of heroin addiction, and better detoxification agents.
- \* Establish clinical research facilities.
- \* Establish a National Drug Abuse Training Center.
- \* Set up a 15-member National Advisory Council for Drug Abuse Prevention to advise the director of the Special Action Office regarding planning and policy objectives.
- \* Provide \$120 million over two years to initiate drug treatment and rehabilitation programs in community mental health centers.
- \* Provide \$31 million over three years for planning grants to States and local units of government.
- \* Increase the authorization for Community Health Centers Act appropriations by \$100 million over a two-year period.
- \* Provide for the establishment of drug treatment and rehabilitation programs in the hospitals and clinics of the Public Health Service.

In all, the House bill authorizes appropriations totalling \$411 million over a three-year period. The Senate has approved a bill authorizing an appropriation of \$1.8 billion. The House and Senate now will try to resolve the differences between their two drug abuse attack bills.

#### V.A. FUNDS BENEFIT KENT, IONIA COUNTIES

More than \$15.5 million in Veterans Administration funds went to Kent and Ionia County veterans during the last fiscal year.



*THESE FIVE 5th District young people have been interning in my Washington office. From left, they are: Mary McCormick, Aquinas sophomore; Thomas Lawson, Samford University (Birmingham, Ala.) junior; Douglas Kamstra, Calvin junior; Dawn DePuyt, Calvin senior; and Suzanne Edwards, Aquinas senior. Dawn, Doug and Tom have completed their internships. Mary and Suzanne will be with us until May 15.*

Veterans in Kent County received a total of \$13,996,947, including \$9,520,304 in pension and compensation money, \$2,972,188 for readjustment and vocational rehabilitation, and \$1,504,455 in insurance and indemnities.

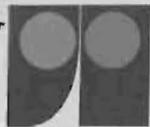
Payments to Ionia County veterans totalled \$1,576,541. This included \$1,066,195 in compensation and pensions, \$332,860 for readjustment and rehabilitation, and \$168,486 in insurance and indemnities.

#### CONGRESS RECESSES

In line with custom, the House went into recess from the close of business Feb. 9 until noon Feb. 16.

I took advantage of the recess to visit the district. One of my more pleasant chores was introducing astronaut Al Worden as the speaker at a dinner in Grand Rapids.

Kent County's Lincoln Day dinner will be Feb. 17 in Grand Rapids. Sen. Bill Brock, R-Tenn., will speak. I will introduce him.



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authorized but must pass  
approp bill yet.

June 15 H.

June 27 Sen

No Conf

Not Law yet

\$3.6 mill for Mich to be distrib  
by State



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February 28, 1972

## HOUSE ADOPTS RURAL DEVELOPMENT ACT

By voice vote, the House last week passed a bill entitled the Rural Development Act of 1972.

The bill is aimed at upgrading the standard of living in rural America and stimulating economic growth in our rural areas.

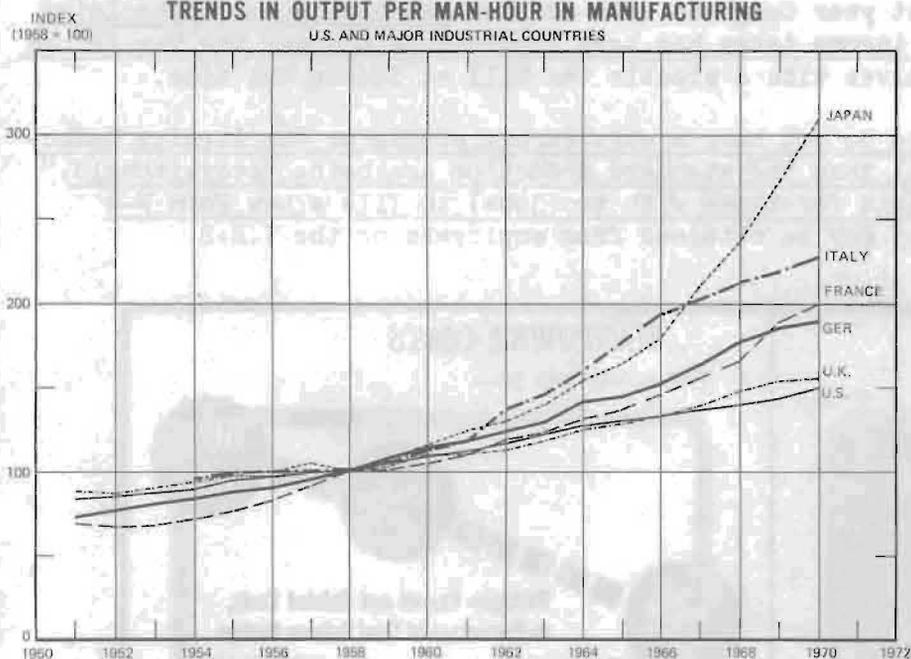
Unfortunately, the proposed program is costly and duplicates many existing programs and overlaps others. I backed a number of provisions in the bill but found others unsound.

The bill would establish four new categorical grant programs:

- A grant authority of \$50 million providing for pollution abatement and control grants to "public, private, or cooperative organizations organized for profit or nonprofit or to individuals."
- A second grant authority earmarking \$25 million annually in grants to farmers for pollution abatement and control. This would duplicate and overlap the existing Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP).
- A Third grant authority permitting up to \$50 million annually to be donated to small towns, cities or other public bodies for a host of rural economic development activities. The scope of this grant would never begin to meet the demand for such "free money."
- A fourth grant authority providing \$10 million per year for comprehensive planning. This duplicates Section 701 of the Housing Act.

In total, the bill would authorize appropriations of up to \$580 million a year in grants.

**TRENDS IN OUTPUT PER MAN-HOUR IN MANUFACTURING**  
U.S. AND MAJOR INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES



## ADMINISTRATION BILLS BETTER

The Administration has offered a better solution to the problem of building rural America.

The Administration approach is based on Rural Revenue Sharing and Rural Development Credit Sharing.

Rural revenue sharing would combine the funding for a number of existing programs into a single more flexible program for rural community development. This program would add \$179 million to present funding.

**U.S. PRODUCTIVITY LAGS** -- The productivity of American labor and industry has not increased as rapidly as that of our important trade partners. Our rate of inflation in recent years has been unacceptably high, and the dollar had become overvalued. The combined effect has been a reduction in the competitiveness of U.S. products in both foreign and domestic markets. The President's Council on International Economic Policy is working on programs to improve our competitiveness and boost our exports.

Under Rural Development Credit Sharing, a new Fund would be established to provide loans, loan insurance and loan guarantees to the states for use in assisting rural development. This Fund could be used to establish or improve businesses, install water and sewer facilities, and to build

other public works and community facilities such as industrial parks and community centers which work directly or indirectly to provide employment opportunities.

I think this is the approach we need. It would really help to build rural America and to stem the flow of out-migration from the "country" into the cities.

#### HOUSE VOTES TO EXPAND O.E.O. PROGRAM

Turning aside efforts to extend the anti-poverty program at its existing level, the House has voted to greatly expand it and to convert the legal services program into a Legal Services Corporation. The vote on final passage was 234 to 137.

I voted for a two-year extension of the existing program but this move was defeated 206 to 159. I wanted the present program extended while efforts were made to perfect child development and legal services legislation.

Instead the Democratic majority insisted upon a bill which expands the Head Start Program authorization from \$316 million to \$500 million this fiscal year and balloons it to \$1 billion in fiscal 1973 instead of the \$394 million sought by the Administration. In addition, the Democrats' bill would require that the President name 11 of the 17 members of the Legal Services Corporation board of directors from lists of names submitted by bar associations, by other law groups and by representatives of the poor. This requirement is unprecedented. The President, Democrat or Republican, should have the freedom to make his own choices, subject to Senate confirmation.

#### FOREIGN STUDY SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

In cooperation with the American Institute for Foreign Study, I am offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a high school junior for six weeks of study and travel in Europe this summer. I have sent complete information regarding this scholarship to every high school principal in Kent and Ionia Counties. Any 11th grader in Kent and Ionia who is interested may obtain further information from the school principal. Applications are to be filed with my Grand Rapids Office before April 1.

#### UNDERWITHHOLDING AND OVERWITHHOLDING

Some people have been amazed to find that more income tax is being withheld from their pay despite the fact that Congress last year voted to cut personal income taxes.

There has been a cut in income taxes. Taxes have not been increased. This year some 60 million taxpayers will share in a \$3.6 billion reduction in individual income taxes under provisions of the Revenue Act of 1971.

But when the Congress cut taxes last year Congress also adopted new income tax withholding tables. The reason was that individual income taxes had been underwithheld since the Tax Reform Act of 1969 and many people found themselves with a sizable tax bill at income tax time.

Now we are finding that employes who do not have a wage-earner spouse or who itemize deductions and come up with a far higher total than the standard deduction are being "overwithheld." The answer is for these individuals (except for those with two jobs) to file a new Form W-4 claiming special exemptions. These forms may be obtained from employers or the I.R.S.

#### **... U.S. TROOP STRENGTH**

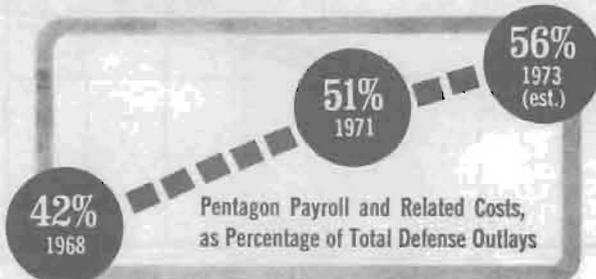
Year ending June 30—



Service	1968	1971	1973 (est.)
Army	1,570,000	1,123,000	841,000
Navy	765,000	623,000	602,000
Marine Corps	307,000	212,000	198,000
Air Force	905,000	755,000	717,000

#### **... MANPOWER COSTS**

Year ending June 30—



*DESPITE a one-third cutback in U.S. troop strength, manpower costs are eating up more and more of the total U.S. defense budget. This is due to inflation and pay raises needed to attract an all-volunteer Army.*

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March 13, 1972

## HOUSE FAVORS VETS' SCHOOL ALLOWANCE BOOST

The House last week voted unanimously to raise allowances of Vietnam veterans attending school full time by 14 per cent and to boost the allowance for on-the-job training by 48 per cent. The Senate Veterans Affairs Committee is considering a similar bill.

The only question in the House was how large the increases should be. Some members feel that Vietnam veterans are being shortchanged on assistance under the so-called G.I. Bill in comparison with the treatment given World War II veterans.

The World War II vet received \$50 a month under the G.I. Bill, plus up to \$500 a year for tuition, fees, supplies and travel expenses.

The Vietnam vet receives a monthly allowance which started out at \$100 and has risen to \$175. He receives no tuition allowance.

Some House members have proposed giving Vietnam veterans up to \$1,000 a year for tuition, plus their present living allowance.

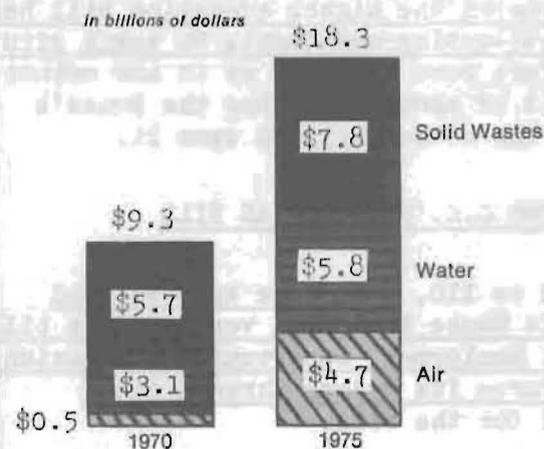
No amendments were allowed to the bill approved by the House last week, due to the procedure under which it was considered.

The bill raises the allowance of a single veteran from \$175 a month to \$200; a married veteran from \$205 to \$234; a married veteran with a child, from \$230 to \$262; the allowance for each extra child from \$13 a month to \$15.

## HOUSE LAUNCHES NOISE CONTROL EFFORT

The House has passed the Noise Control Act of 1972--the first effort to deal with noise "pollution" on a national basis. The rollcall vote was 356 to 32. I strongly supported the bill.

### **BY 1975, THE COST OF POLLUTION ABATEMENT COULD BE ALMOST DOUBLE THE 1970 LEVEL**



*Data: Based on Environmental Protection Agency Data*

The bill sets up a noise control program to be administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Assuming Senate approval of the legislation, it is hoped that noise levels in the country can be reduced within three or four years.

The bill requires EPA to set noise emission standards within 18 months for new construction equipment, motors, engines and electrical and electronic devices.

Local units of government retain the power to determine and enforce noise abatement and control levels.

EPA will coordinate the noise control programs of seven Federal departments and agencies, as well as 12 minor programs conducted by other agencies. EPA will work with the Federal Aviation Agency on the problem of aircraft noise.

The legislation adopted by the House is in line with recommendations made by the President in February of 1971 urging that Congress "provide a method for measurably reducing major noise sources, while preserving to State and local governments the authority to deal with their particular noise problems."

(over)

## JURY DUTY FOR 18-YEAR-OLDS

The House voted last week to lower the minimum age for Federal court jurors from 21 years to 18. I voted for the bill.

I felt that if 18-to-21-year-olds are mature enough to vote for members of Congress who enact Federal laws and for the Chief Executive who has the authority to enforce such laws, then they are mature enough to serve as jurors, as do other citizens.

## OUR AREA TO GET FRUIT PEST MANAGEMENT PROJECT

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has agreed to earmark roughly \$100,000 a year for three years for a fruit pest management pilot project in the West Central apple district to be administered by the Cooperative Extension Service of Michigan State University with the USDA and the Michigan Department of Agriculture cooperating.

The greatest benefit in the long run is the probability of substantially reduced pesticide use in agricultural production. The program will lessen the danger of environmental pollution.

The program is also great news for our fruit growers. It will mean a big reduction in the cost of pest control to fruit growers. In some cases, the saving will amount to \$50 an acre.

Other states also sought the project, but Michigan won out. I contacted USDA officials to indicate my strong support for MSU's proposal.

Some 5,000 acres of apples will initially come under the pest management procedure.

Since the highest cost in growing apples is spraying, especially for pesticide materials, any innovations that get the job done cheaper and without loss of fruit quality would be most beneficial in reducing growing costs.

Michigan's fruit industry is faced with acute financial difficulties. Fruit growers are caught in a squeeze between high costs and low prices and profits. An improvement in production efficiency, particularly the pest control program, can mean the difference between success and failure for many growers.

## HOUSE REAFFIRMS STRONG ANTI-BUSING STAND

The House and Senate have both passed higher education bills containing language aimed at discouraging forced busing to achieve racial balance. However, the House provisions are much stronger than those in the Senate bill.

To make sure that its strong anti-busing provisions prevail in the final version of the higher education legislation, the House last week ordered a firm stand by the House members who will "negotiate" with their Senate counterparts in writing the compromise version of the bill.

When Rep. Earl B. Ruth, R-N.C., made a motion to instruct the House conferees to insist on the House's anti-busing language, House Education and Labor Committee Chairman Carl D. Perkins, D-Ky., moved to table Ruth's motion. The House rejected the Perkins motion 139 to 270. I voted against the tabling motion. The House then adopted the motion to instruct the conferees, 272 to 139. I voted for that motion.



VISITING 'STUDENTS' -- Three Yugoslavs recently spent five days in Grand Rapids studying urban problems there. They subsequently visited me in my Washington office and reported briefly on their study of Grand Rapids.

I urged the House to order the House conferees to hold fast because only three of the 20 House members named as conferees on the higher education bill had voted for the anti-busing amendments to begin with. There was therefore some question as to how enthusiastic they would be about upholding the House's position unless the House insisted upon it.

## HOUSE O.K.'S ANTI-BIAS BILL

By a vote of 303 to 110, the House approved and sent to the White House the final version of a bill giving the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission the power to enforce its orders through court action. I voted for the bill.

## DISTRICT VISIT

My district assistant, Gordon Vander Till, will be in the City Council Room at Belding from 2:30 to 5 p.m. March 17 to speak on my behalf with anyone who has a problem or simply wants to discuss the issues.

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March 27, 1972

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## SICKLE CELL ANEMIA FIGHT VOTED--GRAND RAPIDS EFFORT CITED

The House last week unanimously approved a three-year \$105 million fight against sickle cell anemia, the hereditary blood disease which afflicts thousands of black Americans.

The Senate last year voted to authorize a \$142 million three-year battle against the disease. Selected members of the House and Senate (conferees) will meet soon to iron out the differences between the House and Senate bills.

The legislation will establish a national program for the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of sickle cell anemia, together with screening, counseling and informational programs.

Blacks afflicted with the disease suffer from painful recurrent sickle cell "crises" throughout their lifetimes and generally do not live beyond the age of 30.

Of the 25 million black people in America, roughly 2.5 million may have the sickle cell trait and at least 50,000 may suffer from the disease.

A systematic effort such as that contemplated by the bill just passed may bring about the kind of effective control needed to end the scourge of sickle cell anemia.

During the House debate on the bill, I described the work done by Dr. Robert M. Nalbandian of Blodgett Memorial Hospital and his team on sickle cell anemia screening and the testing program carried out in the Grand Rapids schools. I also cited the excellent documentary on sickle cell anemia, "Paradox of Neglect," produced by WZZM-TV (Channel 13).

## RADIO FREE EUROPE FATE POSTPONED

For many weeks the House and Senate have fought over whether to continue funding of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty.

House members--I among them--strongly believe that the radios should continue to operate, since this is the only way to get the truth through the Iron Curtain.

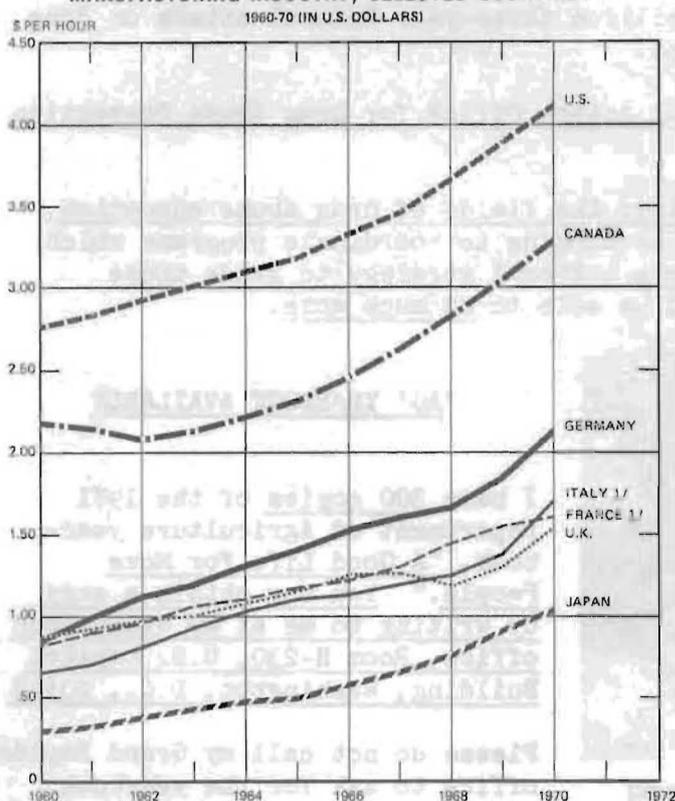
Certain senators, led by Foreign Relations Chairman J. William Fulbright, want to silence the radios. They contend the radios are "one of the last vestiges of the Cold War."

Last week the House agreed with Senate insistence that the radios be funded only through the end of this fiscal year, with the understanding that the fight will be renewed over funding the radios for fiscal 1973.

## CONGRESS RAISES PRICE OF GOLD

The House last week voted to raise the official price of gold from \$35 an ounce to \$38. The Senate had passed the bill March 1. The effect of the action is to lower the price of U. S. goods sold overseas and raise the price of foreign imports.

## TOTAL COMPENSATION PER HOUR WORKED IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, SELECTED COUNTRIES



THESE ARE the latest available figures on how the earnings of U. S. workers in manufacturing compare with those of their foreign counterparts.

## HOUSE VOTES 'REHAB' EXPANSION

In a major expansion of existing vocational rehabilitation programs, the House last week approved legislation extending and improving "rehab" services for disabled Americans. The action was unanimous.

Sponsors of the bill called it "the most significant advance in assistance to handicapped persons in half a century."

The bill would:

- \* Extend existing vocational rehabilitation programs for three years;
- \* Authorize appropriations for comprehensive services to the severely disabled;
- \* Establish comprehensive rehabilitation centers for the low-achieving deaf, for rehabilitation of people with spinal cord injuries, for people with end stage kidney disease who can be kept alive and rehabilitated with modern methods of transplants and hemodialysis;
- \* Establish a National Information and Resource Center for the Handicapped; and
- \* Establish a temporary National Commission on Transportation and Housing for the Handicapped.

In fiscal year 1971, more than one million individuals received services from the State vocational rehabilitation agencies. Of these persons, 291,272 were rehabilitated. The average cost of such rehabilitation was \$2,168 per person--considerably less than that of any other manpower or related program with similar objectives.

The latest count shows 17.7 million disabled persons in the United States between the ages of 18 and 64.

## SOCIAL SECURITY LEGISLATION PENDING

I am receiving a number of inquiries from elderly constituents wondering when a pending increase in Social Security benefits will be forthcoming.

It is impossible to answer that question except to say that the Senate Finance Committee is working almost daily on a House-approved welfare reform bill which provides for a rise in Social Security benefits. Action providing a Social Security benefits increase will be taken sometime before Congress adjourns for the year.

Those wishing to urge a speedup of Senate action may write to the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, Sen. Russell B. Long, Room 217, Old Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C., 20515.

## HOUSE SHARPENS ATTACK ON DRUG ABUSE

The House has voted unanimously to authorize a \$1 billion three-year Federal attack on drug abuse, including treatment and rehabilitation of addicts.

The bill gives Congressional sanction to the Special Action Office for Drug Abuse Prevention established by President Nixon last June.

The Special Action Office already has had an impact in the fields of drug abuse education, treatment, rehabilitation, and prevention. The Office is working to coordinate programs which are spread through nine Federal agencies and to develop a national strategy to guide these efforts. With Congressional authority, the Office will be able to do much more.



THIS GROUP FROM CASCADE Christian Church--21 young people and five adults--met with me recently at the U.S. Capitol for a question and answer session.

## 'AG' YEARBOOK AVAILABLE

I have 300 copies of the 1971 Department of Agriculture yearbook, "A Good Life For More People". You may obtain a copy by writing to me at my Washington office, Room H-230, U.S. Capitol Building, Washington, D.C., 20515

Please do not call my Grand Rapids office to ask for the yearbook. The yearbook is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

###

Statement placed  
in Congressional Record  
4/17/72



BOX Z GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49501 (616) 364-9551

April 10, 1972

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
Room H-230  
U. S. Capitol Building  
Washington, D.D. 20515

Dear Mr. Ford:

Your March 27, 1972 Newsletter described your part in the debate on the recent House bill regarding some funding for Sickle Cell Anemia. You had cited the documentary produced by WZZM.

May I take this opportunity express thanks to you for the national recognition that this represents? May I also point out the real members of the team that struggled against some odds in order to see this documentary project successfully completed? Those who put in considerable work behind the scenes of course, received due screen credit, but are not always identified in publicity about this project. They are William D. Corder, executive producer; John L. Bailey and Bill Prins, directors; Werner Schneider and Robert Cross, cameras; Jim Jenson and Rod Caszatt, producers-writers. This film was produced by Production Thirteen, the film unit of WZZM-TV. As manager of Production Thirteen, I am naturally concerned that those of us who contributed so much to the success of "Paradox of Neglect", are not overlooked.

Keep up your good work. I personally look forward to your representation of this district for years to come.

Sincerely,

*John L. Bailey*

John L. Bailey  
Manager Production Thirteen  
The Film Production Unit of WZZM-TV

*P/Can we do something to get them  
in recognition?  
Did it even on C-3? Either  
may not get national recognition  
Credited was put something in  
news on either case.*

*May 6*

*W. J. -  
news  
documentary  
fair*

*Last man  
MAB concern  
one of 10-40 minutes  
76 entries*

