

The original documents are located in Box D34, folder “Potato Chip Institute, San Francisco, CA, January 29, 1973” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. The Council donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Distribution done in California only

M Office Copy



CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

Excerpts from a Speech by Rep. Gerald R. Ford at 12 noon Jan. 29, 1973, in San Francisco, before the Potato Chip Institute.

For release at 12 noon, PST, Jan. 29, 1973

Today I would like to tell you how I view the domestic scene, particularly the economy and the outlook for legislation in the 93rd Congress.

The economy has plenty of zip in it. Profits are good. More Americans are working than ever before, and prospects are good for a sharp drop in unemployment.

Personal incomes are setting new records and going higher. It appears the national income will exceed a trillion dollars by the end of this year.

Inflation continues to be a problem, but I think the President acted wisely in moving this country to a self-administering price and wage control system. Let no one think all the restraints have been removed. We are simply in a transition from a system of strict controls to a position where we once again will enjoy a free economy. I am encouraged by the President's action, and I believe it will work. It pains me to see our free enterprise system operating under a set of artificial governmental constraints.

Strikes could be a problem in 1973 but otherwise the business outlook is brighter than it has been for years.

As you know, real growth in the economy topped 6 per cent last year. That was a highly unusual rate of growth. I predict now that we will have real growth of 5.5 per cent or better in 1973 -- a fine showing in anybody's book. The years 1972 and 1973 probably will give us more economic growth than any other two-year period since the Korean War.

Now let me talk a bit about Congress and the outlook there.

I will begin by mentioning that there will be a continuing focus on consumerism -- not particularly on packaging and labeling but on overall consumer advocacy.

By that I mean the 93rd Congress probably will not enact any packaging and labeling legislation to add to what is now on the books but is almost certain to wind up creating a consumer protection agency.

(more)



The House Government Operations Committee will be considering three bills, primarily: H.R. 21, introduced by committee chairman Chet Holifield of California and Rep. Frank Horton, R-N.Y.; H.R. 14, introduced by Rep. Ben Rosenthal, D-N.Y.; and H.R. 564, cosponsored by Reps. Don Fuqua, D-Fla., and Clarence J. Brown, R-Ohio.

H.R. 21, the bill cosponsored by chairman Holifield and ranking Republican Horton is identical with the bill that passed the House last year. The Rosenthal bill is similar to H.R. 21 but gives the consumer agency more authority. Another way to describe it is that it is Ralph Nader's bill. The Fuqua-Brown bill is similar to H.R. 21 but doesn't give the consumer protection agency as much power. It would limit the agency's authority to intervene in other agencies' actions or to appeal a matter in court.

If I were to guess right now I would say the Holifield-Horton bill has the inside track in the Government Operations Committee. It will probably clear the committee and pass the House. It's possible, of course, that it will undergo changes in the committee -- and what those changes might be I cannot predict.

If a consumer protection agency bill passes both houses and is signed by the President, funds still will have to be appropriated for the new agency to function.

Congress has a host of money problems.

The 93rd Congress will almost certainly see a renewal of the tug-of-war between the President and the Democratic majority over excessive Federal spending.

Apart from that, there is much major legislation hanging over from the 92nd Congress which will get early attention in the new Congress.

I hope the wave of excitement over welfare reform has not already crested because our welfare system is a disgrace. Prospects may be rather slim but I would like to see welfare reform become one of the top priorities of the 93rd Congress.

There is much talk about tax reform but I do not see the 93rd Congress doing much in that area. Congress may boost the 10 per cent minimum income tax set four years ago and remove some of the exemptions built into the minimum income tax at that time -- because there has been a great outcry against the wealthy whose income is sheltered in various tax preferences. There may also be some tightening of inheritance taxes.

I expect to see enactment of a comprehensive health insurance program -- if not in 1973 then certainly in 1974.

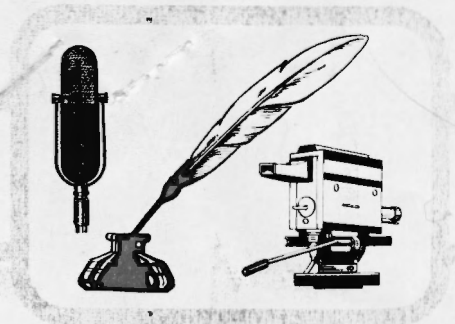
There will also be a fresh push for anti-busing legislation. And I see pension reform legislation as almost a certainty.

Despite all the predictions from Democrats of a turbulent first session, I do not expect the 93rd Congress to be an obstructionist Congress. Considering the size of the President's election win, it seems to be the Congress will have to be responsive to some extent even though controlled by the opposition party.

#

Distribution done in California only

A Office Copy



CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

Excerpts from a Speech by Rep. Gerald R. Ford at 12 noon Jan. 29, 1973, in San Francisco, before the Potato Chip Institute.

For release at 12 noon, PST, Jan. 29, 1973

Today I would like to tell you how I view the domestic scene, particularly the economy and the outlook for legislation in the 93rd Congress.

The economy has plenty of zip in it. Profits are good. More Americans are working than ever before, and prospects are good for a sharp drop in unemployment.

Personal incomes are setting new records and going higher. It appears the national income will exceed a trillion dollars by the end of this year.

Inflation continues to be a problem, but I think the President acted wisely in moving this country to a self-administering price and wage control system. Let noone think all the restraints have been removed. We are simply in a transition from a system of strict controls to a position where we once again will enjoy a free economy. I am encouraged by the President's action, and I believe it will work. It pains me to see our free enterprise system operating under a set of artificial governmental constraints.

Strikes could be a problem in 1973 but otherwise the business outlook is brighter than it has been for years.

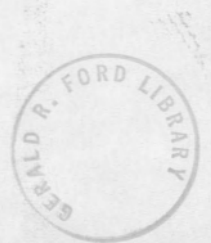
As you know, real growth in the economy topped 6 per cent last year. That was a highly unusual rate of growth. I predict now that we will have real growth of 5.5 per cent or better in 1973 -- a fine showing in anybody's book. The years 1972 and 1973 probably will give us more economic growth than any other two-year period since the Korean War.

Now let me talk a bit about Congress and the outlook there.

I will begin by mentioning that there will be a continuing focus on consumerism -- not particularly on packaging and labeling but on overall consumer advocacy.

By that I mean the 93rd Congress probably will not enact any packaging and labeling legislation to add to what is now on the books but is almost certain to wind up creating a consumer protection agency.

(more)



The House Government Operations Committee will be considering three bills, primarily: H.R. 21, introduced by committee chairman Chet Holifield of California and Rep. Frank Horton, R-N.Y.; H.R. 14, introduced by Rep. Ben Rosenthal, D-N.Y.; and H.R. 564, cosponsored by Reps. Don Fuqua, D-Fla., and Clarence J. Brown, R-Ohio.

H.R. 21, the bill cosponsored by chairman Holifield and ranking Republican Horton is identical with the bill that passed the House last year. The Rosenthal bill is similar to H.R. 21 but gives the consumer agency more authority. Another way to describe it is that it is Ralph Nader's bill. The Fuqua-Brown bill is similar to H.R. 21 but doesn't give the consumer protection agency as much power. It would limit the agency's authority to intervene in other agencies' actions or to appeal a matter in court.

If I were to guess right now I would say the Holifield-Horton bill has the inside track in the Government Operations Committee. It will probably clear the committee and pass the House. It's possible, of course, that it will undergo changes in the committee -- and what those changes might be I cannot predict.

If a consumer protection agency bill passes both houses and is signed by the President, funds still will have to be appropriated for the new agency to function.

Congress has a host of money problems.

The 93rd Congress will almost certainly see a renewal of the tug-of-war between the President and the Democratic majority over excessive Federal spending.

Apart from that, there is much major legislation hanging over from the 92nd Congress which will get early attention in the new Congress.

I hope the wave of excitement over welfare reform has not already crested because our welfare system is a disgrace. Prospects may be rather slim but I would like to see welfare reform become one of the top priorities of the 93rd Congress.

There is much talk about tax reform but I do not see the 93rd Congress doing much in that area. Congress may boost the 10 per cent minimum income tax set four years ago and remove some of the exemptions built into the minimum income tax at that time -- because there has been a great outcry against the wealthy whose income is sheltered in various tax preferences. There may also be some tightening of inheritance taxes.

I expect to see enactment of a comprehensive health insurance program -- if not in 1973 then certainly in 1974.

There will also be a fresh push for anti-busing legislation. And I see pension reform legislation as almost a certainty.

Despite all the predictions from Democrats of a turbulent first session, I do not expect the 93rd Congress to be an obstructionist Congress. Considering the size of the President's election win, it seems to be the Congress will have to be responsive to some extent even though controlled by the opposition party.

###