

# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



October 4, 1967

The American taxpayer won an important scrimmage in the House of Representatives last week. The House voted 202 to 182 to send back to the Committee on Appropriations a resolution providing funds to operate those departments of government for which no money is available for the current fiscal year. (Technically these departments have no money to spend after September 30th.) The resolution was sent back because of the Republican demand for an amendment cutting budget expenditures by \$5 billion this year. If the amendment had been adopted, the Treasury would have recovered \$5 billion which could otherwise be spent.

There was no direct vote on the amendment because of a parliamentary technicality. But those who voted "yes" to recommit the resolution were in effect voting to reduce expenditures this year by \$5 billion. Those who voted "no" were voting for a \$141 billion budget with no reduction.

We were pleased at the support we received for this proposal which is one means of reducing expenditures and avoiding a tax increase. All Republican Congressmen from Michigan supported the economy move. All Democrats from our state voted against the amendment and for greater spending. Further action on the issue was postponed until this week.

**EXPENDITURE CONTROL AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY:** Dr. Raymond Saulnier, Professor of Economics at Columbia University and a former chairman of the President's Council of Economic advisors, told the Committee on Ways and Means recently that under current circumstances a tax increase is needed. But he went on to say: "I want to make it clear that if all a tax increase does is to invite another spurt of federal spending it will accomplish nothing except raise further the already high, and as I see it excessive, proportion of the nation's income currently absorbed by taxation. That proportion now stands at close to 30 percent. Thus there is no escaping the conclusion that expenditure control is an absolute necessity in the present situation.... Our country is overcommitted financially. This condition must be corrected."

**JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ACT:** The House amended and approved H.R. 12120 last Tuesday evening. The bill authorizes \$25 million this year for assisting the states and local governments in providing detention facilities and training schools (including "halfway houses") for rehabilitating youths who are delinquent or are in danger of becoming delinquent. "Halfway Houses" are training homes for youngsters who are between probation and formal commitment or those who are "halfway" out of correctional

institutions. Funds may also be used for diagnosing individual cases and for promoting local services geared to the prevention of delinquency.

Two amendments to the bill as recommended by the committee were approved in roll call votes. I supported both amendments. One transferred the major control over the expenditure of funds from HEW to state and local governments. Eighty percent of the funds must go to local units of government and only a maximum of 20 percent may be utilized by the states. But the major effect of the amendment is to give greater control to local and state officials. The power of the federal bureaucracy in Washington is diminished. I agree that delinquency can best be handled at the local level. The amendment was approved 234 to 139. All Republicans from Michigan supported the amendment. All Democrats from our state voted for greater federal control.

The second amendment prevents any of the money authorized by this bill to be spent by the Office of Economic Opportunity for its "war on poverty." The Democrat author of the amendment put it simply: "We have a poverty program. We should not start another. We are trying to accomplish something else with this Act. Let us not put all this money for this particular legislation into the same hands for the same use that the OEO spends their money for." I agree that this is not an anti-poverty measure; it is an anti-delinquency program. The vote (241-132) also indicated congressional concern with the manner in which OEO has been operated. Again, Michigan's Republicans supported the amendment; all our Democrat colleagues voted "no."

**COURT-AUTHORIZED ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE:** Support for the legislation, which I am co-sponsoring, to permit court-supervised wiretapping and bugging in the investigation of major crimes received additional and significant support recently. The Judicial Conference of the U.S. (composed of the chief judges from all the federal circuit courts and top judges from several district courts) has endorsed legislation permitting federal and state officers to tap telephones and eavesdrop electronically under court orders. Republicans have introduced a new bill on this subject to accommodate the technical recommendations of the Conference. The Association of Federal Investigators (composed of over 1,000 career employees active in law enforcement) states that listening devices "are necessary, useful, and effective investigative weapons particularly when organized crime cases are concerned." It calls our approach "a major step" in the campaign against organized crime. Support for our position also comes from the National Association of Attorneys General and the National District Attorneys Association.

It is most difficult to understand why President Johnson and Attorney-General Clark maintain a vigorous opposition to court-supervised electronic surveillance. The Johnson Administration wants Congress to prohibit the use of these modern criminal detection methods in all cases except those involving the national security. I believe they should be authorized, but under specific court orders and close supervision only, in investigations involving what is known as "organized crime."



# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



October 11, 1967

The taxpayers lost the second scrimmage over the reduction in federal spending but they may be winning the game. The House of Representatives approved a "continuing appropriations" resolution without an amendment reducing expenditures this year by \$5 billion. On the same issue the week before, the House returned the resolution to committee in order to save \$5 billion. But last Tuesday by a vote of 213 to 205, the House registered its approval of the resolution providing funds for certain departments without any demand for a cut in spending. Every Republican from Michigan, as well as from every other state, voted to force a \$5 billion reduction in order to avoid a tax increase. Every Democrat from our state voted for the President's spending proposals and in effect for higher taxes.

But all is not lost. In fact, we are encouraged. During debate on the resolution Tuesday, Chairman Mahon (Dem.-Texas) of the Committee on Appropriations promised to bring to the floor, possibly this week, legislation to reduce appropriations and expenditures in the four appropriations bills which have already become law. In other words, this would be a "recision bill." It would remove from the President the authority he now has to spend certain funds. It would do in part what we were attempting to accomplish in our amendment.

The second encouraging development occurred while the House was debating the issue on Tuesday. The Committee on Ways and Means voted 20 to 5 to take no further action on President Johnson's demand for a 10 percent tax increase until the Congress and the President reach an understanding on the reduction and control of expenditures. (The five votes for the tax increase were cast by Democrat members of the Committee.) The President is put on notice that he must cooperate and cut federal spending. Otherwise no tax increase will be considered by the House Committee on Ways and Means, which is the committee having initial jurisdiction over President Johnson's tax increase proposal.

Taxpayers can be further encouraged by the decisive action (the vote was 226 to 173) of the House last Wednesday in sending back to conference the \$13 billion Labor-HEW appropriation bill for further reductions. Generally, the House approves without too much difficulty the recommendations of the conferees appointed by each house to iron out the differences between a bill as passed by each house. But in this instance the House instructed its conferees to insist on reduction of \$20 million represented by 13 items which were in excess of the President's budget request. In other words,



the House insisted that the President be given no more money than he requested.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT? It should be made clear that the Executive Branch of the government headed by the President spends our tax money. (The cost of running the legislative and judicial branches amounts to \$369 million a year.) Congress appropriates money, makes it available, grants "new obligational authority." But the executive branch (the President and his assistants) spends the money. The President is not required to spend every cent made available to him. In fact, on July 1st, he had on hand \$50.3 billion of "unobligated funds," including \$10.3 billion in the Department of Housing and Urban Development and \$14 billion in the Department of Defense. This is money made available to him by appropriations prior to fiscal 1968 but not yet spent at the beginning of that fiscal year. But it is there to be spent. The President can hold down spending by not using funds already appropriated. Furthermore, it is the President who requests funds from the Congress. He can hold down his requests. It is true that Congress can reject or reduce these requests, and to date this Congress has cut \$1.9 billion out of a total request considered of \$95.4 billion. This is not much. As a practical matter, when a Congress and a President are both dedicated "to spending and taxing," it is extremely difficult to protect the taxpayers' interest.

ON THE POSTAL RATES: Upon the recommendation of President Johnson the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service has proposed an increase in postal rates. If the Committee's bill (scheduled for consideration this week) becomes law, postage on letters will go from 5¢ to 6¢; on cards, from 4¢ to 5¢ while airmail stamps will be 10¢ instead of the present 8¢.

There will be a 23-percent increase, effective in three steps, on second-class mail, newspapers and magazines. Bulk rates for third class advertising matter, in which there has been so much interest, will be increased from 18¢ a pound to 22¢. The minimum per piece will go up one cent from 2.8¢ to 3.8¢.

It is interesting to note how these proposed rates will change the extent to which each class of mail pays its own way. The chart below, based on an analysis by the Post Office Department, gives the percentage of cost paid now, and under the proposed rates.

	<u>Percentage of cost paid now</u>	<u>Percentage of cost paid under proposed rates</u>
First Class	103	123
Air Mail	121	139
Second Class	23	29
Third Class	63	82
Fourth Class	90	91

The Committee has combined in one bill the postal rate increase and federal employee salary adjustments. The postal rate increase will bring in an additional \$884 million next year. The employee salary increases will cost in 1968 a little over \$628 million.





# Your Washington Review

by

Congressman

## JERRY FORD



October 18, 1967

The bill to raise postal rates and increase salaries of federal employees was approved by the House of Representatives last Wednesday evening by a vote of 318 to 89. If this bill becomes law, postal rates will be increased according to the schedule I described last week. An effort to further raise the rates on third class (advertising) matter was defeated 147 to 64.

Under the bill postal workers will get a 6 percent pay increase retroactive to October 1st and the salaries of other federal classified employees will go up 4.5 percent. This will cost \$628 million during the first year. Postal employees will get another 5 percent increase next July; other employees will get a raise to be determined by the President after comparing their salaries with comparable employment in private industry, but not less than 3 percent. This second year cost will be \$1.9 billion.

Both postal and other employees will receive a final, third-phase adjustment in April of 1969 to bring all of their salaries up to a par with private enterprise salaries as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The third year cost will be \$2.6 billion.

The bill also provides for the establishment of a "Quadrennial Commission" to determine once every four years the proper salaries for governmental officials and employees in all three branches of government, including members of Congress. The President would then include the exact recommendations for salaries and expenses in his budget submitted to the Congress. These recommendations would become effective after 30 days unless Congress by law sets the pay or one House specifically dis-  
approves the President's recommendation.

Prior to final passage, a motion was made to approve the salary increase for the first year only. This would give the Congress an opportunity to reexamine the situation next year and could result in substantial savings to the taxpayer. The motion also would have eliminated the "Quadrennial Commission" and kept direct control over salaries in the Congress which represents the taxpayers. I supported this motion in behalf of economy and good legislative procedure. But we lost by a close vote, 211 to 199. Had this motion been adopted, I could have supported the bill. But without these constructive changes, I could not go along with a piece of legislation which will add over \$2 billion to the federal budget in two years and will weaken congressional control over federal expenditures.

ON OBSCENE MAILINGS: The Postal Rate and Pay Increase bill as approved by the House provides a means for stopping the flow through the mails of "pandering advertisements." Such advertisements are not obscene in themselves but offer to sell materials which are claimed to be erotically arousing or sexually provocative. Under the bill any person receiving such an advertisement may request the Postmaster General to advise the mailer to remove his name from the mailing list. If the Postmaster General determines that the material is a "pandering advertisement," he issues the order to the mailer. Failure to comply would be punishable through federal court action.

This is one means to get at an ever-increasing problem. During the past year the P.O. Department received about 250,000 complaints from people all over the country bitterly protesting the receipt of offensive, sex-oriented advertising matter in the mail. Most were from parents whose minor children have received such advertisements.

AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATION: The House on June 8 approved a \$4.7 billion appropriation bill for the Department of Agriculture. When the Senate completed action on the bill in July the figure had risen to \$6.7 billion--up \$2 billion. Fortunately for the taxpayers the conferees in October agreed to a compromise of \$4.9 billion; a cut of \$1.8 billion from the amount set by the Senate. The House approved the conference report with the \$4.9 billion appropriation last Tuesday, but insisted on further negotiations with the Senate on three items in an effort to effect further economies.

HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION: President Johnson has recommended, the Senate has passed, and the Democrat-controlled House Committee on Public Works has approved, an \$85 million highway beautification bill. But Republican members of the Committee have indicated their strong opposition to this expenditure. The bill provides \$5 million for control of outdoor advertising, \$10 million for control of junkyards, and \$70 million for purchasing and improving strips of land along the highway but outside the right-of-way area. These strips according to the instructional manual for 1967 could include a "rock outcropping, a lake, a valley or mountain of size and type to attract attention, a stream bed...or a pastoral scene...." Or they could include "a strip of sizable timber or interesting natural shrubs, vines, etc." Even the Democrat majority on the Committee stated that these instructions by the Bureau of Public Roads have "made it extremely difficult, if not impossible, for a state to use these funds to improve the appearance of existing highways."

The Republicans point out that defeat of this bill (S.1467) will have little or no effect on beautification efforts within the highway right-of-way. They endorse efforts to beautify our highways but insist that we must establish proper priorities when we have an annual deficit approaching \$30 billion and Mr. Johnson is demanding a 10% surtax. They would postpone action on this bill and then rewrite it to make it workable and effective. I agree.

RECENT VISITORS: From Grand Rapids - Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Johnson, Thomas Baughman, Mr. & Mrs. David Wierenga, Judge & Mrs. Stuart Hoffius, Mr. & Mrs. J. VanderMeulen, Mr. & Mrs. J. Jeltema, George Whitfield, Platt Dockery, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Smale, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hetzner, Richard VerVeer, Neil Klap, James A. Kladder.





# Your Washington Review

by

Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



October 25, 1967

The taxpayers won again last Wednesday evening when the House of Representatives voted to hold federal spending to \$131.5 billion during the current fiscal year. An exception may be made if the President finds that additional funds are needed for Vietnam. Expenditures for foreign aid are specifically limited to \$2 billion and funds for the Office of Economic Opportunity to \$1.2 billion.

During fiscal 1967 expenditures totaled \$125.7 billion. The estimate for 1968 has been \$136.5 billion although recent forecasts have put this year's spending at \$144.2 billion. (During July and August Uncle Sam was spending at the rate of \$145 billion annually.) So if the House-approved resolution should become law the savings this year could range between \$5 billion and \$13.2 billion. I must stress, however, that these figures are broad estimates, that they refer only to the Administrative Budget, and that Senate approval of the resolution, at this writing, is by no means assured.

This action was taken as the House considered the fourth "continuing resolution" for this session. Such resolutions are necessary because of delays in enacting appropriation bills which supply funds to operate the government. They permit departments and agencies to spend funds at a given rate until their appropriations are made.

**HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION AND THE BUDGET:** Any suggestion that a reduction in highway construction will help eliminate the \$25-30 billion deficit this year is totally misleading. Federal highway construction funds are not listed in the Administrative Budget which shows this enormous deficit, nor do they contribute to the national debt which on October 16th stood at \$340 billion. Highway funds will not be affected by the President's 10 percent surtax. They will not be affected by any percentage cut in the budget, nor any limitation on the Administrative Budget.

Federal highway grants to the states are made from a special Highway Trust Fund built up by taxes on motor fuel, tires and tubes, treadrubber, trucks, buses, trailers, truck use, truck parts and accessories, and on lubricating oil used in highway vehicles.

The money collected by these user taxes can be spent only for highways. Expenditures have been running at the rate of \$4 billion annually. Most of the money goes to the interstate highway system to which the federal government contributes 90 percent and the states 10 percent. Of the 41,000 miles in this system, about 22,000 have been completed and another 17,000 are under way.



**AN INDEPENDENT MARITIME ADMINISTRATION:** The House voted last Tuesday to establish a Federal Maritime Administration independent of any department or agency of government. It would take over the functions now performed in the Department of Commerce by the Maritime Administration and Maritime Subsidy Board.

President Johnson recommended last year that the duties of these offices be transferred to the new Department of Transportation. Republicans led the opposition to this proposal and the House on August 30, 1966 voted 261 to 117 to remove any reference to the Maritime Administration from the legislation creating the Department of Transportation. As I reported in my newsletter of September 6, 1966, it was our feeling that an independent agency would more vigorously promote the development of our merchant marine fleet.

We, therefore, strongly supported the recommendation of the Democratic-controlled Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries that the independent agency be established. The Republican Policy Committee said that this "would underscore the importance of our Maritime industry...(and) place Congress on record as being in favor of a Merchant Marine that can meet our defense commitments and once again carry the American flag to all the world ports of trade."

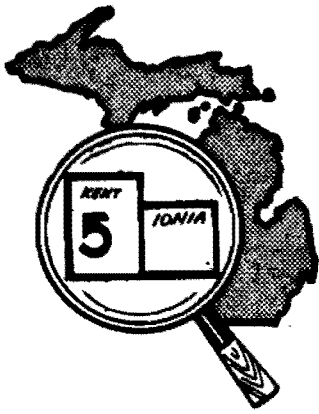
The Republican Policy Committee pointed out further that "the percentage of U.S. flagships in the world's merchant fleet is one-half of what it was three decades ago. The percentage of American goods moving overseas on American ships is at an all-time low. In 1966, the U.S. put only 13 new ships into service. The Soviets took delivery of 62 ships in the last six months of 1966 alone. Some 80 percent of the Soviet fleet is less than 10 years old while nearly 70 percent of the U.S. fleet is more than 20 years old."

**TWO COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS:** The House has authorized the U.S. Mint to prepare up to 200,000 national medals in commemoration of the 300th anniversary of the explorations of Father Marquette and up to 1 million medals to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the American Legion. No cost to the taxpayers is involved in either case.

Father Marquette explored northern Michigan, the Mississippi River, and Lake Michigan between 1668 and 1675. He died near Ludington and was buried at St. Ignace. The American Legion was founded in Paris, March 15-17, 1919 and now has a membership of 2,600,000 in 16,500 posts in this country and abroad.

**MAP OF VIETNAM:** We have for distribution copies of a map of "Vietnam and the Asian Continent," published as a House document. In color and quite detailed, this map which unfolds to 16x21 inches is available upon request to my Grand Rapids office (425 Cherry Street, S.E.--telephone: GL 6-9747) or by writing me at the House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

**RECENT VISITORS:** From Ionia, Hon. Stanley Powell. From Grand Rapids: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Nordmark; Mrs. Henry Lucas, Ethel Lucas; Mrs. John Kolkman, Julia Kolkman; Mr. and Mrs. Al Hoort, Lauralee and Gayla.



# Your Washington Review

by  
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**JERRY FORD**



November 1, 1967

A 4.5 percent increase in the "regular compensation" of our servicemen as recommended by the President was approved by the House of Representatives last Thursday. But because regular military compensation includes elements other than basic pay, a 4.5 percent increase translates into a 5.6 percent increase in basic pay.

For example, a private now drawing \$100.50 per month basic pay will receive \$106.20 under the bill which was passed 385 to 2. A sergeant now getting \$287.70 a month will be advanced to \$303.90. An army captain with over 18 years of service who presently is paid \$728.70 will get \$769.50 a month. The adjustments are made retroactive to October 1st and will cost \$626 million this year.

**APPROPRIATIONS MOVE ALONG:** The House has acted on 13 of the 14 regular appropriation bills which must be passed in order to provide funds to operate the departments and agencies of the federal government. Only the foreign aid bill remains to be initially considered.

A \$2.1 billion military construction bill was approved after cutting the President's request by \$794 million. Even at that the bill is \$538 million above the 1967 appropriation. Funds just over \$1 million each were provided for Wurtsmith AFB, Oscoda, and K.I. Sawyer AFB, Gwinn, and over \$1.5 million goes to Selfridge AFB, Mount Clemens - all in Michigan. This bill has been sent to the Senate.

Final action was taken on five appropriation bills which will be going to the President for signature. The President had requested \$36.4 billion. The Congress made cuts totaling \$1.7 billion. NASA's request was reduced by a half-billion dollars.

**RENT SUBSIDIES:** For the second time this year the House of Representatives on Tuesday expressed its opposition to expansion of the rent subsidy program. By a vote of 250 to 152 it sent back to conference with the Senate an amendment providing \$40 million for new contracts for rent subsidies. Because these contracts run for 40 years a total of \$1.6 billion was involved in this controversy. On Thursday the House by a vote of 198 to 184 accepted a compromise providing \$10 million for new contracts for this year.

The Congress has already appropriated \$32 million for paying rent subsidy contracts now in force. This program, restricted to newly constructed or major rehabilitated housing, was supposed to provide thousands of housing units in a four-year period. As of September 1, 1967, after almost two years of operation, only 1,076 housing units have benefited. Only 37 new units have been constructed.

**RENT CERTIFICATES:** The same Housing Act of 1965 which called for rent subsidies contained a Republican-sponsored Rent Certificate program. As of September 1st, this plan had provided housing for 5,989 families. Using "decent, safe, and sanitary," existing housing it is taking care of almost six times as many low-income families as is the rent subsidy program. Moreover, of the 1,076 units which receive rent subsidies, 1,029 of them could have been utilized under the Republican rent certificate program at less cost to both the federal government and the low-income families occupying the homes. Under rent subsidies, the cost to the renter is 25 percent of his income. Under the Republican rent certificate program the cost to the needy family is only 20 percent of its income. This plan also grants a greater degree of flexibility with leases running from one to five years. Rent subsidies with a multi-million dollar burden on the U. S. Treasury are locked in for 40 years.

The rent certificate plan is just one alternative to rent subsidies; there are others. We who question the rent subsidy approach have offered a constructive alternative and will continue to support sound legislation to help provide good housing for those in need.

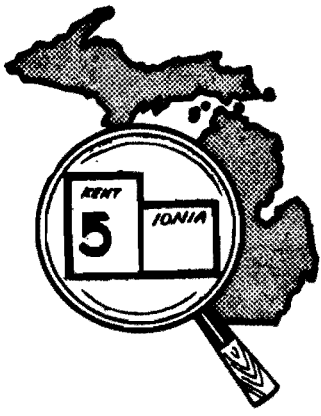
**MODEL CITIES:** The House also refused on Tuesday to accept a Senate amendment involving a \$300 million increase in funds for the President's model cities program. Last November Congress made available \$11 million to get this program off the ground. To date nearly a year later, the Johnson Administration has not awarded one cent to any city. 193 cities have applied with the expectation that about 70 would get some federal money. HUD said it would announce the cities chosen by July 1st. It has not done so yet.

The House had approved \$237 million in this year's budget but the Senate added \$300 to make a total of \$537 million - and all this for a program that is not in operation. But on Thursday agreement was reached with the Senate providing \$312 million for the model cities program. President Johnson had requested \$662 million.

**MONDAY HOLIDAYS:** A subcommittee has recommended to the House Committee on the Judiciary a bill providing for eight legal public holidays, six of which will come on Monday. The holidays are: New Year's Day, Jan. 1; President's Day, the third Monday in February; Memorial Day, the last Monday in May; Independence Day, the first Monday in July; Labor Day, the first Monday in September; Veterans Day, the last Monday in October; Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Monday in November; and Christmas Day, December 25th. The bill (H.R. 11679) is scheduled to be considered by the full committee and would make this holiday schedule effective on January 1, 1970.

**RECENT VISITORS:** From Cedar Springs: Mrs. Isaac Wolbrink. From Grand Rapids: Mr. & Mrs. Howard Coil, Jeff, Donn, Diane and Steve; Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Scripps and family; Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Tompkins and 2 children; Dr. & Mrs. R. Burton and 3 children; Mr. & Mrs. E. VanSlyke and family; Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Edison, Steve, Barb, John; Douglas Hillman; Leonard Crandall; Richard Baxter; Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Hooceboom; Mr. & Mrs. John Strickler; Dr. & Mrs. Robert Richards; Dr. & Mrs. Robert Browne; Dr. & Mrs. James Ford; Mr. & Mrs. H. J. West; Msgr. H. H. Zerfas; Ivan Zylstra; Don Lennon; Roger Chatterton. From Portland: Mr. & Mrs. H. B. Hath. From Ionia: Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bennett. From Wyoming: Mr. & Mrs. Roger VanDuinen and family.





# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



November 8, 1967

The House of Representatives on Thursday approved the Air Quality Act of 1967, a bill to help resolve air pollution problems on a regional basis in accordance with air quality standards and enforcement plans developed by the states. Air pollution is a menace to the health of our people and proper action to combat it must be taken. The legislation (S. 780), passed by a vote 362 to 0, provides \$362.3 million over a three-year period for air control research and the development of plans by which pollution sources would be controlled.

In the bill as passed by the Senate, California was exempted from the auto emission control provision on the basis that it may need more stringent controls. Right now the federal standards are the same as those in California. The House Committee had revised this provision, but the House itself voted to accept the Senate version.

**RESTRICTION ON COTTON IMPORTS:** The House last Monday by a vote of 274 to 64 approved a bill which has the effect of halting the importation of extra-long staple cotton from the United Arab Republic and the Republic of the Sudan. Producers of such cotton (with a staple length of 1-3/8 inches or longer) in the United States will be permitted to expand their production in order to meet our domestic needs.

These two nations and Peru have been the main foreign sources of this cotton. Peru's imports will not be affected by this legislation. But, both the UAR and Sudan have broken off diplomatic relations with our country. The Committee on Agriculture in recommending the bill said: "The Committee does not see the equity in continuing to import an approximate (yearly) average of 56,120 bales from the UAR...(and) 400 bales from the Republic of the Sudan...when these two nations do not feel that the United States is worthy of their diplomatic recognition.... It seems ironic to the Committee that American cotton producers had to appear at the hearings on this bill in order to request that they be permitted to grow extra-long staple cotton which is now being produced by nations not even in diplomatic relations with our government." I agreed and voted for the bill. President Johnson and his Administration are opposed to the legislation.

**FEDERAL MEAT INSPECTION ACT:** The House approved last Tuesday by a vote of 403 to 1, the Purcell bill (H.R. 12144) on federal meat inspection. Endorsed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Michigan Department of Agriculture, and the Republican Policy Committee, this bill modernizes the Federal Meat Inspection Act and broadens the present meat inspection program by establishing a federal-state

cooperative meat inspection arrangement.

The Committee on Agriculture was deeply concerned with the problem of meat inspection, something which affects every family. It studied three approaches. By a vote of 29 to 5 it rejected a proposal calling for federal inspection of all plants, inter- or intra-state, having gross sales over \$250,000 annually. This could have virtually eliminated state inspection programs and would have added \$31.2 million in costs to the federal government. Furthermore, it would not have insured inspection of the smaller intra-state plants which often have neither the capital nor the manpower to maintain adequate sanitation standards.

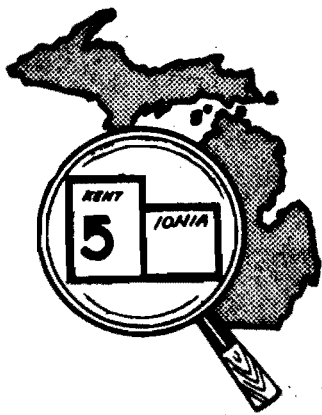
The second alternative was to confine the legislation and the inspection only to meat moving in inter-state commerce and not to provide any program of federal-state cooperation. This approach was rejected by a vote of 26 to 6. Only then did the Committee approve the third alternative for a cooperative federal-state inspection system. The bill is so written that the federal government cannot preempt the jurisdiction of the states over intra-state commerce.

**FLOOD INSURANCE:** The House on Wednesday approved a bill authorizing up to \$500 million to help underwrite \$2.5 billion worth of flood insurance to be provided through an "insurance pool" established by private insurance companies. Flood insurance is not generally available because private insurers are not able to write it on an economically feasible basis. Under this bill, owners of existing property in a flood-prone area would pay a "reasonable" premium for insurance. In the event of heavy losses, the federal government would make payments under a formula set up in the bill to the "insurance pool" from which claims will be paid.

Individuals who build or substantially improve their properties in areas where flood insurance was available (flood-prone areas) would be required to pay the full actuarial cost (rather than a lower "reasonable rate") of the insurance, and would thus bear the full cost of the risk to which they had exposed themselves. The bill also encourages state and local government to restrict the future development of land which is exposed to flood hazard.

**MONDAY HOLIDAYS:** It doesn't appear that the bill which I mentioned last week to set six of our eight legal holidays on Mondays will receive favorable action. The full Committee on the Judiciary voted last Tuesday to keep Independence Day on July 4 and Thanksgiving on a Thursday. If the bill is considered further, the Committee may keep Veterans Day on November 11. There was little enthusiasm for "President's Day" among the committee members. The Committee Chairman is reported to have said the bill is dead.

**RECENT VISITORS:** From Grand Rapids: Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wierenga, Jane, Joan, and Rick; Mr. and Mrs. Otto DeBruyn, Marlene, Karen, and Bob; Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Zoerner and Ann; Mrs. F.J. Moshier; Ronald Laug; Dr. H.J. Walkotten; Dr. and Mrs. H.L. Homan; Mr. and Mrs. R. VanderHill; Vicki Ellis; Mrs. Linda Fahrni.



# Your Washington Review

by

Congressman

## JERRY FORD

November 15, 1967



The House of Representatives debated the "war on poverty" last week. Consideration of the legislation to authorize continued operation of the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) has extended into this week.

Members of Congress agree that we need an effective program to help the poor. But OEO's "war on poverty" has been in deep trouble for some time. It is in trouble because of its failure in too many instances to meet the real needs of the unemployed and underemployed for decent jobs; because in too many places it has been mired in partisan politics; because too much of the money intended for the poor has gone for grossly inflated administrative expenses and high salaries; and because programs such as the Job Corps have produced dismal results at enormous costs. The American taxpayers are demanding more from their \$4 billion, three-year investment in aiding the poor.

I agree with those Republican members of the Committee on Education and Labor who contend that the legislation proposed by the majority does not get at the basic weaknesses in the program. We would not abolish the war on poverty but we do favor a "fundamental redirection" of its programs. We would use federal funds as "seed money" to help enlist the enormous resources of our free enterprise economy and to increase the scope of state participation.

Under the "Opportunity Crusade" recommended by many Republicans as an alternative, the community action programs (CAP) would be continued but they would be directed toward helping the poor obtain decent jobs. We would do this by establishing training programs through existing public and private agencies, by encouraging employers and unions to participate in training programs, by making health and vocational rehabilitation services available, and by assistance in other ways. The emphasis would be on creating employment opportunities. Specifically barred would be all political activities, partisan or non-partisan, including voter registration.

Republicans favor an independent local Community Action Program in which the poor themselves will have an effective voice. We oppose, therefore, the Green Amendment adopted by the Democratic-dominated committee, giving control over CAP programs and funds to the locally elected city officials. This will involve the entire program in "politics" with CAP becoming the creature of the dominant political organization such as we see in the big city "boss-rule" type situation. We support the plan which requires at least 1/3 of the community action boards to be representative of the poor,



up to 1/3 representative of local public officials, and the balance representative of private and public human resource agencies.

We support "Headstart," the pre-school education program. But we think it would be greatly improved if it were handled through the schools and the Department of HEW which would also carry out a "Follow-Through" program. The "Upward Bound" program designed to assist able, but needy and educationally deprived high school students to prepare for college should also be administered by HEW.

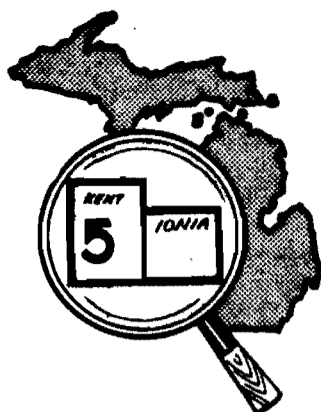
The Job Corps has been an expensive project with questionable results. We would transfer this program to HEW's Office of Vocational Education with authority to carry on present programs and to gradually transfer this educational project to area vocational schools and technical institutes.

The Neighborhood Youth Corps is designed to provide a work-study program similar to vocational training programs now in operation in many of our high schools. Generally, the in-school portion of the program has been successful, but the Committee found that the "out-of-school program, typically, has consisted of make-work projects having absolutely no value as training." We would incorporate the in-school activities in HEW's vocational educational program, and the out-of-school work activities in the national manpower program of the Department of Labor. This would strengthen both programs and eliminate duplication of effort.

Some critics leave the impression that the Republicans would provide no federal funds for the war on poverty. Our "Opportunity Crusade" bill authorizes \$1.4 billion in federal appropriations. But because we enlist the cooperation of private enterprise, our program would provide more than \$3 billion for the poor. The Committee's bill calls for a tax contribution of \$2.06 billion. I am convinced that an expenditure of \$1.4 billion will adequately fund all the good programs in behalf of the poor, whether authorized under the present law, the Committee's bill, or the Republican proposal. But if the present OEO structure is retained, it will require better planning and more efficient management than has been exhibited in the past if we are to achieve the desired goals.

**SUMMER JOBS IN FEDERAL AGENCIES:** Examinations will be given on December 9, January 13, February 10, and March 9 to anyone interested in a summer job with one of the federal agencies including the Post Office Department. Opportunities are open for typists, stenographers, clerks, and engineering and science aides. Further information on the openings and requirements will be found in Civil Service Announcement No. 414. This 32-page booklet is available at high school counseling offices, college placement offices, and many post offices. If you can't obtain one, please let me know at my Grand Rapids or Washington office and I'll see that you get a copy.

While the examination is given on four dates, it is recommended that interested persons take the test as early as possible. The booklet also describes some so-called blue-collar jobs and other positions for which an examination is not required.



# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman

## JERRY FORD

November 22, 1967



An appropriation of \$1.6 billion to wage the war on poverty this fiscal year was authorized by the House of Representatives last Wednesday evening. This is practically the same amount the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) received during the last fiscal year which ended June 30th. OEO had requested \$2.06 billion and the Senate had approved \$2.2 billion. The House made a \$460 million cut in the request. This represents a savings to the taxpayers and is an indication that even a majority of the House is not satisfied with the nationwide operation of the poverty program.

But most of our efforts to improve the legislation and to develop a more effective and beneficial program were defeated. A few helpful and constructive amendments were approved by a majority vote but they did not get at the basic difficulties in OEO's national administration.

Moreover, we in the minority tried more than once to eliminate the Committee-approved Green amendment which puts control over community action programs in the hands of locally elected city officials. This amendment will involve the entire program in "politics." The Green amendment was opposed by OEO and those who are working in the community action programs. Republicans tried repeatedly to restore control of these programs to those community leaders especially concerned with the problems of the poor. Our plan would have required that at least 1/3 of the community action boards to be directly representative of the poor.

When the House refused to make this essential change and when it defeated those amendments which would have improved and strengthened the war against poverty, I could only vote "no" on final passage of the bill.

**FOREIGN AID APPROPRIATION:** The House Committee on Appropriations cut over \$1 billion from President Johnson's request for foreign aid funds for this year. The President had asked for \$3.8 billion; the Committee approved an appropriation of \$2.7 billion (at this writing the House had not taken final action). In its Report the Committee stated that a majority of its members believe "that the foreign assistance program is important to the national interest of the United States and that our enlightened self-interest requires that we continue to work for conditions of stability and progress in the underdeveloped countries of the world." But in making the \$1 billion reduction the committee "took cognizance of the very serious situation in which the country finds itself." I endorse fully the 29 percent cut made in Mr. Johnson's request.

The bill retained a provision which prohibits the Export-Import Bank from extending credit to communist countries unless the President determines that it is in our national interest to do so. Mr. Johnson asked that this restriction be removed. The Committee decided to retain it and I agree.

**FOREIGN AID AUTHORIZATION:** It was just two weeks ago today that the House approved the final version of the foreign aid authorization bill. The bill as originally passed provided that no defense articles could be sold to or purchased from any nation which supplies our communist enemy in North Vietnam. The original House bill also contained a provision which would in effect place higher tariffs on goods coming from Poland as long as she supplied arms to the Vietnamese communists. The Senate eliminated these restrictions and an effort by the House to reinstate them lost by four votes, 200 to 196.

As long as we are engaged in a hot war against Communist aggression, we should not encourage or assist communist nations who are helping the enemy. I voted to reinstate the original House restrictions as did all Republicans from our state. We were joined by one Democrat but six Michigan Democrats voted against restrictions on trade with those communist nations which are assisting North Vietnam.

**SHIPPING TO NORTH VIETNAM:** From June 1965 to September 1967 a total of 932 merchant ships arrived in North Vietnam. Of these 306 were under the U.S.S.R. flag, 285 were Chinese, 102 were from East European countries. But what is even more disconcerting is the fact that in that same period 239 ships flying free world flags carried goods to North Vietnam. The Pentagon estimates that as much as 10 percent of all goods imported by that country originate from free world sources. During the first ten months of this year, 63 free world ships brought goods to North Vietnam.

**THE 1968 APPROPRIATIONS:** The foreign aid bill was the last of the 14 regular appropriations bills which must be passed to provide funds for the operation of the government. Only the final supplemental funding bill remains to be enacted. It will deal principally with the anti-poverty program. Chairman Mahon has stated that it will be kept at approximately last year's \$1.6 billion level. If that is correct, the House will have cut the President's request for funds by \$6 billion. But that is not the whole story, the Senate restored House reductions so that total tax saving will be closer to \$5 billion.

**THE NATIONAL DEBT:** As of November 9 the national debt was up to \$340.8 billion. Just one year ago the figure was \$326.8 billion. Thus there has been an increase of \$14 billion in the national debt in the past twelve months. The annual interest cost on this debt is \$15 billion.

**HOW BIG IS A BILLION:** If you handed your wife \$1 million and told her to go out and spend it at the rate of \$1,000 a day, she would be back from her shopping spree in three years. But, if you gave her \$1 billion to spend at the same rate, \$1,000 a day, you wouldn't see her again for 2750 years.





# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman

## JERRY FORD



November 29, 1967

The Social Security bill, approved by the house in August, passed the Senate last Wednesday. But the Senate made numerous changes in the bill (H.R. 12980) so many issues remain to be resolved. The House bill provides for a 12-1/2 percent increase in benefits, the Senate version puts the increase at 15 percent.

The House bill raises the maximum wage to be taxed in 1968 and thereafter from \$6600 to \$7600 and increases the tax rate in 1969 on both the employee and employer from 4.4 percent to 4.8 percent. The Senate bill will mean a greater tax take through payroll deductions. It raises the maximum wage to be taxed to \$8000 in 1968, to \$8800 in 1969, and to \$10,800 in 1972. The Senate version also raises the tax rate on each worker to 4.8 percent in 1969. Both versions provide additional increases in future years.

The chart below gives the maximum Social Security tax on each employer and employee by years under present law and the House and Senate bills:

Year	Present Law	House	Senate
1967	\$290.40	\$290.40	\$290.40
1968	290.40	334.40	352.00
1969-70	323.40	364.80	422.40
1971	323.40	395.20	457.60
1972	323.40	" 395.20	561.60
1973-75	356.40	429.40	610.20

Under present law the maximum payroll tax on each worker and employer can eventually go to \$372.90 annually. Under the House bill the payroll tax will go to \$448.40 annually, under the Senate version the tax will eventually be \$626.40 for each person and for his employer. President Johnson proposed that the payroll tax be set eventually at \$540 and this sum would be paid by both employer and employee annually.

I voted for the House bill which was recommended unanimously by the Democratic and Republican members on the Committee on Ways and Means. It was good legislation and a compromise close to the House bill should be approved soon.

**THE PEACE CORPS:** I voted with the majority last Tuesday when \$115.7 million was authorized for the Peace Corps this year by a vote of 312 to 32. This is a reduction of \$3 million below the amount requested by the President but \$5.7 million more than was appropriated for the Peace Corps last year. During this year there will be about 17,000 Corpsmen serving in 58 countries.

But I also supported a motion to recommit which would have cut \$5.7 million from the bill to make this year's authorization the same as last year's. It would have been well to hold costs to last year's figure when the budget deficit is going to exceed \$25 billion. But the motion to recommit was defeated 203 to 141.

**OBSTRUCTION OF ARMED FORCES:** The House has approved the procedure (adopted the rule) under which it will debate H.R. 8. This bill prohibits the solicitation, collection, or delivery of money or property to a foreign power engaging in war with our forces. This is aimed at those in our country who have collected money, supplies, and blood for the Vietnamese communists. A second section prohibits any obstruction



to the movement of military personnel or supplies. This is designed to halt such antics as lying down on the tracks to prevent the movement of troop trains. A similar bill passed the House last year by a vote of 275 to 64 but no action was taken in the Senate. I have supported the legislation.

**FOREIGN AID APPROPRIATION:** The House approved by a vote of 167 to 143 the \$2.7 billion foreign aid appropriation bill which I mentioned last week. This was a reduction of \$1.04 billion in the amount requested by the President. While I agree we must carry on our mutual security program, I strongly endorsed the 29 per cent cut in funds for this year. As usual, President Johnson criticized the House for saving over a billion dollars in Federal expenditures.

**APPROPRIATIONS TO DATE:** When Congress recessed for Thanksgiving Day, the House had approved 16 appropriation bills and had cut \$5.8 billion from the President's requests for \$145.3 billion. But the Senate, acting on 15 of these bills, restored \$3.3 billion of the House reductions, leaving a reduction of \$1.7 billion. On 14 bills involving requests of \$141.8 billion on which final action had been taken the Congress had reduced the President's request by \$4.7 billion, so you can see the House of Representatives has been holding the line on cutting the President's budget despite attacks by L.B.J. and Senate restorations.

**A RECORDED IN ROLL CALLS:** Through Thanksgiving Day there have been 408 quorum calls and yea-and-nay votes in the House of Representatives, an all-time high. Last year there were 399 roll calls, each of which takes about 30 minutes to complete. The smallest number of recorded votes, since I have been in Congress, came in 1953 when there were only 123. Congress adjourned that year on August 3.

During my 19 years in Congress there have been 2,464 quorum calls and 2,414 yea-and-nay votes. I have answered a total of 4,443 for an attendance record of 91 percent.

**OUTDOORS USA:** The 1967 Yearbook of Agriculture is entitled, "Outdoors USA." Its 400 pages contain articles, drawings and pictures under four headings: The Big Woods, Water, Beautification, and the Countryside.

I have a limited number of copies which I will be pleased to send upon a request addressed to my Washington office: H-230, The Capitol.

**NATIONAL VISITORS CENTER:** The House is scheduled to consider this week a bill which will permit the government to lease the Union Station in Washington as a National Visitors Center. About 20 million Americans visit the nation's capital each year. The Committee on Public Works which recommended the bill said: "What is needed is an orientation center which becomes the visitor's first stop in Washington. Here he would receive an overall view of the operations of the government, the historic monuments and museums to be seen...the visitor should also be provided with ample parking facilities, restaurants, rest areas, and visual and written aids to better understand the nation's story."

The Committee placed a limit of \$3 million a year for lease cost to the government and insisted that the Center be self-sustaining. But one committee member thought that the consideration of this matter should "be deferred until this nation's difficult fiscal situation has clarified, and other more important legislation is scheduled for House action."

**RECENT VISITORS:** From Grand Rapids: Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Haan, Wendell Verduin, Wallace Chamberlain, Mrs. Amy G. Hansen, Mrs. Arthur Burch, Mr. & Mrs. Reyn Kline, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Zaagman, J. Willard MacDonald, Mr. & Mrs. John Perschbacher, Mary and John; Syd Shank, Mr. & Mrs. Chester Hall, Msgr. Joseph Walen, Iel Flickema, Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Caple, Mr. & Mrs. Rex Conely. From Comstock Park: Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Krupp. From Belding, Mr. & Mrs. Roger Packard and Steven. From Wyoming: Peter D. Swieter.



# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman

## JERRY FORD

December 6, 1967



There was standing room only last Wednesday when the Committee on Ways and Means opened hearings on the Administration's proposed bill calling for a 10-percent surtax and a reluctantly-included reduction in federal expenditures during this fiscal year. The Committee was told that Mr. Johnson had recently ordered all departments and agencies to make a 2-percent reduction in personnel costs and a 10-percent cut in controllable spending. The total of these cuts will be about \$4.1 billion taking into consideration \$2 billion in reductions Congress has or will make. As you know, we have been urging reductions of at least \$5 billion during the current year. I am pleased the President recognizes the need for an expenditure reduction which I strongly urged him to do last March.

Administration spokesmen revised downward their estimates of this year's deficit. The Budget Director now predicts a shortage of \$19.6 billion, provided that \$4.1 billion in savings is realized and \$5 billion worth of "Participation Certificates" are sold. In reality, the sales of these certificates is a gimmick to make the budget appear more nearly in balance, but the taxpayers' obligations are still there. When the Administration sells \$5 billion in participation certificates it is selling government assets and converting the cash to income. A neat but deceptive financial trick.

The Chairman of the Committee has made it clear that there will be no income tax increase this year. I continue to support his position on the basis that Congress should reduce expenditures first, analyze the results, and then consider later the need, if any, for the President's tax increase.

**FLAMMABLE FABRICS:** In response to the tragic, torch-sweater fires which took the lives of several Americans in the early 1950's, Congress enacted the original Flammable Fabrics Act. That was in 1953. The Act was passed to take off the market "torch" sweaters and children's cowboy chaps which almost exploded because they burned so fast. But the 1953 act applied only to wearing apparel and the standards of flammability were fixed by law.

Last Monday the House approved legislation to also cover hats, shoes, gloves, children's toys, and interior furnishings such as blankets, bedding, draperies, carpets, and upholstered furniture. The bill (S.1003) makes the law more flexible by authorizing the Secretary of Commerce to establish standards and regulations after detailed study in cooperation with the industries involved. The law will apply to



imported materials intended for use in our country, and will cover materials used in American military or diplomatic facilities abroad.

This is a forward step in consumer protection but as was pointed out more than once in debate, it is "not a cure-all and an end-all in the matter of flammability of wearing apparel and interior furnishings." The bill was approved 325 to 0.

**NATIONAL VISITORS CENTER:** The House approved by a vote of 316 to 34 the proposal for remodeling and leasing the Union Station in Washington as a visitors center. It is expected that revenues received at the Center will equal operation costs. I mentioned this last week and supported the proposal when it was approved on Monday. As most of you know, Union Station is only about four blocks from the Capitol Building. Among other facilities, the Center is to provide parking for 4000 automobiles at a rate not to exceed \$1 for 24 hours. Anyone who has visited Washington will applaud this service.

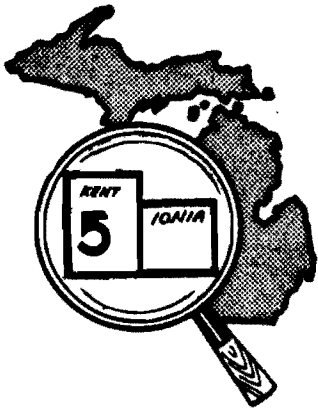
**INTERNAL SECURITY AMENDMENTS:** The House last week also approved a bill designed to establish a system of public disclosure of communist organizations and communist-front organizations. The bill is intended to strengthen the enforcement of the Internal Security Act of 1950. The principle feature of this Act is its disclosure provisions which require the self-registration of communist organizations and members. But court decisions against self-registration (as a violation of the 5th amendment) have impaired the effectiveness of the 1950 Act.

The bill (H.R.12601) approved on Tuesday eliminates the self-registration provision. Instead the registration will be accomplished by the Attorney General after a full hearing before the Subversive Activities Control Board. Because of its technical nature the bill is complicated, and serious questions were raised as to the necessity for its adoption. After weighing all the facts, I voted with the majority when the bill was passed 269 to 104.

**CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING:** By a vote of 201 to 179 the House on Tuesday followed a procedure which resulted in approval of "at-large" elections for the two Congressmen from Hawaii and the two from New Mexico in 1968. This is an exception to the principle which holds that states having more than one Congressman must elect them by districts. I agree with the principle that members should not be elected at large. It is better for both the Congressman and his constituents when the Representative is elected by and responsible to a specific district rather than to the state-at-large. It is also consistent with the "one-man, one-vote" concept.

But more was involved in this controversy than simply the merits of the at-large election. The Senate had added the provision relative to Hawaii and New Mexico as a "rider" to an insignificant private immigration bill, something which cannot be done in the House. As a result, the issue was not given proper consideration nor was the normal legislative procedure followed. I strongly endorse the recommendation of the Democratic Chairman of the Committee on Rules that the House rules be amended to prevent voting on such "riders" without proper consideration.





# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



December 13, 1967

This may be the last week of the first session of the 90th Congress but in any event, final action on a number of significant issues is expected to be taken. Differences between House and Senate versions of legislation have been or are being worked out. The final version, called a "conference report," must be approved in identical form by both houses. To be acted on this week are the Social Security legislation, the postal rate bill combined with a pay raise for federal employees, the poverty bill, the pay increase for members of the armed forces, and the appropriation bills for foreign aid and the poverty program.

**THE POVERTY BILL:** The compromise worked out on the poverty bill retains the Green amendment which was vigorously opposed by Republicans and by OEO and all those active in the Community Action Programs in the war on poverty. The Green amendment puts control over community action programs in the hands of politicians. Republicans tried repeatedly to restore control of these programs to those community leaders who are especially concerned with the problems of poverty including representatives of the poor. Republicans share the concern of OEO and those active in the program that in the large metropolitan areas the Green amendment will involve the poverty program in "politics" and undermine its effectiveness.

**AGE DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED:** The House approved legislation last Monday aimed at making it easier for those between 40 and 65 to obtain and hold employment. The bill, similar to one already passed by the Senate, prohibits employers, employment agencies, or labor unions from discriminating against an individual simply because of his age. The primary means for enforcement will be through an education and information program by the Secretary of Labor, and through informal and formal remedial procedures. But suits to enforce the law may be brought in the courts if that appears necessary.

If this bill becomes law, the provisions will apply only to employers of 50 or more persons or to unions with 50 or more members. But this number will be reduced to 25 on June 30, 1968. It will be unlawful to refuse to hire, or to discharge, or to discriminate against any person as to compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, simply because he is between 40 and 65 years of age. Unions will not be able to exclude, or expel, or in any way limit membership because of age.

However, there are two significant exceptions outlined in the bill: the provisions do not apply where age is a bona fide, occupational qualification reasonably

necessary to the particular business; and a new employee of advanced age may be excluded from the employee benefit plan (pensions, etc.) for a good reason, such as increased costs. In other words, a person cannot be denied employment because of the provisions of a pension plan, but the employer would not be required to include him under the plan. Of course, there is nothing in the bill which prevents an employer from discharging a person or refusing employment for reasons other than age.

There was some effort to lower the age to include, for instance, airlines stewardesses for whom the age limit is now from 32 to 35. But the Committee refused to involve the government in alleged age discrimination involving those under 40. The bill passed the House 344 to 13 under a procedure which precluded any changes on the floor.

**MEAT INSPECTION:** On Wednesday, the House gave final approval to an effective meat inspection bill which differs in some aspects from the original House version adopted on October 31. The Senate made some changes in the House bill and in conference a good compromise was approved. Under the bill as it went to the President, the states are given up to three years to enact legislation which would bring state standards for the preparation and sale of meat and meat products up to federal standards. According to experts Michigan already has such a program. In the meantime the Secretary of Agriculture has the authority to inspect any plant (whether in interstate or intrastate commerce) which he has reason to believe is selling adulterated or unsafe meat. The various state meat inspection programs can be financed by a 50 percent contribution from the federal government if the state regulations are equivalent to federal standards.

The final version of the bill was a good one and I voted with the majority when it was approved 336 to 28.

**THE TAX TAKE:** According to the Tax Foundation taxes collected by all units of government in 1967 for the first time in history exceeded \$200 billion. The steep rise in taxes is well illustrated by the following chart on the total tax take:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Taxes</u>	<u>Per Capita</u>	<u>Per Family</u>
1956	\$100 billion	\$600	\$1,897
1960	127 billion	709	2,264
1965	166 billion	860	2,768
1967	207 billion	1048	3,385

**FOR THE ASKING:** Our supply of the 1967 Yearbook of Agriculture is completely exhausted. But I do have 50 copies of a "Handbook on the Law of Search and Seizure" prepared by the Department of Justice. This may be of interest to law-enforcement officials, students, and others concerned with search and seizure law.

**NEXT ISSUE NEXT YEAR:** This is the last issue of "Your Washington Review" for this year and this session of Congress. The next issue will reach you after Congress reconvenes on January 15, 1968.

**RECENT VISITORS:** From Grand Rapids: Mr. & Mrs. H. R. Boshoven and John; Mr. and Mrs. William Irwin and Betsy; Mr. & Mrs. John Irwin; Mr. & Mrs. Glen Perrott and Susan; Sherman L. LePard; and Vern Minor.