

Budget now complete

Senate passes Reagan plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate applied the final seal Thursday to a 1982 budget guideline totaling \$695.4 billion, but while the design is tailored skin-tight to Pres. Reagan's tax and spending program he's likely to find the real cloth much harder to cut.

"The president is extremely pleased that the Congress has acted in record time" said White House deputy press secretary Larry Speakes after the measure cleared its final hurdle by a vote of 76-20 in the Republican-controlled Senate. Only two Republicans joined with 18 Democrats in opposition.

On Wednesday, the House voted 244-155 to approve the compromise — agreed upon last week by House and Senate budget writers — that accommodates the president's reductions on both the tax and spending fronts.

Reagan's signature is not required for the measure.

"We take this as an indication that they (Congress) mean business about getting this country moving again," Speakes said.

Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., who guided the plan through the Senate as chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, said after the vote the "watershed resolution" establishes the "most significant and drastic spending change by the federal government in 25 years."

But passage of the compromise merely means Congress now faces the job of actually cutting individual programs to fit the targets set by the non-binding outline.

Domenici said it was a "giant first step ... but it is nonetheless a first step."

He acknowledged the tougher battles are still to come.

"Nothing as dramatic as this can be easy," Domenici said.

House Speaker Thomas O'Neill Jr., D-Mass., has said Democrats "are not going to roll over and play dead" when it comes to cuts in specific programs.

The compromise budget guidelines include binding instructions to congressional committees to make 1982 cuts totaling about \$35 billion in existing

programs within their jurisdictions through a so-called "reconciliation" process.

Those cuts will be assembled into a single package next month. But that package may be revised when it is considered by the full House and Senate.

O'Neill said that Democrats will offer amendments on the House floor to avert some of the cuts contained in the preliminary outline. The idea is that it will be tougher for members to vote against specific cuts than on one budget resolution.

Basically, O'Neill envisions that the House Rules Committee, controlled by Democrats, will use parliamentary procedures to enable introduction of the amendments, which would restore money for specific programs.

The speaker said amendments definitely would be offered to restore money for student aid and school lunch programs.

In addition, Domenici conceded "we will have many floor amendments" in the Senate.

Overall, the compromise plan closely resembles the \$695.3 billion plan Reagan originally recommended last February and envisions the president's vow of a balanced budget by 1984, assuming several billion dollars in future cuts yet to be identified.

The plan follows Reagan's economic policy of calling for large cuts in spending for social programs and accelerated defense spending while leaving room for the 30 percent, three-year personal income tax rate cuts the president says will revitalize the economy.

Democratic critics of the Reagan-backed proposal have attacked the forecasts of strong economic growth and interest rates of 10.5 percent used to arrive at the \$37.6 deficit figure in the compromise plan. Reagan's original budget proposals called for a \$45 billion deficit in 1982.

Rep. James Jones, D-Okla., chairman of the House Budget Committee called the optimistic projections "a politically convenient mirage."

Two more Irish fasters die in jail

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — Hunger striker Patrick "Patsy" O'Hara died Thursday night at the Maze Prison. He was the second striker to die in a day and the fourth this month in an effort to gain political status for Irish nationalist prisoners.

Prison authorities said he died at 3:29 p.m. on the 61st day of his fast. The 24-year-old O'Hara was the first member of the Irish National Liberation Army faction, a radical splinter group allied with the Irish Republican Army's Provisional wing, to die on a hunger strike.

A wave of hijackings, firebombings and sniper attacks swept Roman Catholic West Belfast on Thursday after the death of the Raymond McCreech, the third hunger striker. Several thousand troops in armored vehicles sealed off much of the area to keep the violence from spilling over into Protestant neighborhoods.

The Roman Catholic primate of all Ireland, Cardinal Tomas O'Fiaich, appealed in "near desperation" for compromise. He again denounced violence and described the killing this week of five British soldiers in an IRA explosion as a "revolting deed (which) shames us all."

McCreech, a 24-year-old IRA guerrilla, died in Maze prison at 2:11 a.m. Thursday with his brother, the Rev. Brian McCreech, at his side.

Sporadic gunfire, gasoline bombings and burnings raged for five hours in this troubled British province, but the violence following McCreech's death was less than after the deaths of his fellow IRA guerrillas Bobby Sands, 27, on May 5 and Francis Hughes, 25, on May 12.

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