

Energy act to be U.S.'s first since 1970s

WASHINGTON (AP) — Shower heads and toilets will use less water, light bulbs and motors less electricity. Neighborhood service stations might offer natural gas as well as gasoline.

There will be more windmills producing electricity — and perhaps more nuclear power plants as well.

That, and more, could come to pass by the end of this decade largely because of a 1,500-page document working its way through Congress and likely to emerge later this year as the Comprehensive National Energy Policy Act of 1992.

The House passed the bill last week 281-37, the Senate by a 94-2 margin last February. And while some differences remain to be worked out, the outlines of a final bill are set in what will be the first overhaul of the country's energy policy since the late 1970s.

Much of the legislation is complex and of immediate interest mostly to the industries involved: coal, natural gas, oil,

nuclear and others.

But most individuals are likely to be touched by it eventually.

"In big ways and small ways everybody will be affected. Houses will be built differently. We'll see different types of fuel being used. We will have reduced dependence on (oil) imports," says Deputy Energy Secretary Linda Stuntz.

The aim is to set a course away from oil, especially imports. By 2010, changes brought about by the legislation will enable oil imports to be 5 million barrels a day lower than they otherwise would be, says Rep. Philip Sharp, D-Ind., one of the House bill's architects.

The heart of the legislation is a combination of programs to improve energy conservation and spur expansion of other energy sources: nuclear and natural gas and renewables such as solar, wind, biomass from agricultural wastes and geothermal from the earth's interior.

While some energy experts

maintain that Sharp's projections are too optimistic, they nevertheless foresee the bill having significant impact on how much energy is used and how it will be produced in the coming decade.

"Consumers will live in more efficient buildings and use more efficient appliances," says Howard Geller, executive director of the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy. "Industries will have more efficient motors, offices more efficient lighting. People will be using less water and less energy to heat water."

The catalyst for this will be a requirement for new energy standards for such things as lights, appliances and various equipment from commercial motors to home air conditioners and bathroom fixtures.

There also are requirements for government and private fleet owners to buy vehicles that use alternative fuels and begin to wean America's transportation system away from gasoline.

ET ALS

MEETINGS

Students for Equal Access will hold a general meeting today from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. See the EMU's events schedule for room location.

MISCELLANEOUS

Accounts, a panel discussion with Ron Herndon and Wanda Coleman, will be tonight at 7:30 in the EMU Fir Room.

Deadline for submitting Et Als to the Emerald front desk, EMU Suite 300, is noon the day before publication. Et Als run the day of the event unless the event takes place before noon.

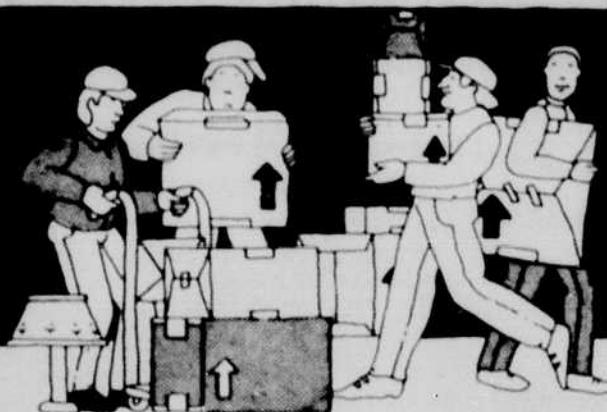
Notices of events with a donation or admission charge will not be accepted. Campus events and those scheduled nearest the publication date will be given priority.

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SAT

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of being biased.'

"That's not there," he said. "There's no smoking gun."

However, Hubin said there may be parts of the test that fail to predict the academic performance of people of color in the same way they do for the majority culture.

Warren said there is no question the verbal section is biased.

"The math is universal," she said. "But I think the English part of the test is definitely culturally biased. There are vocabulary words that average minorities don't hear in their everyday lives, don't hear from their parents, or in their environment."

"They're not taught it in the black schools," Warren said. "So when you get to the test and you're faced with these questions, it becomes based on memorization and regurgitation."

THE RODNEY KING VERDICT AND ETHNIC STUDIES AT THE U OF O

We are a group of faculty and graduate teaching fellows opposed to racial injustice in our country, in our community, and on our campus. The unjust verdict in the trial of the four Los Angeles police officers who beat Rodney King has made it apparent that there is a pressing need for education about race relations in this country. This need exists in Simi Valley. It also exists in the Willamette Valley.

At this time of increasing racial tensions, we believe it is vitally important for the University of Oregon to increase its commitment to the Ethnic Studies program. Ethnic Studies at the U of O has never been adequately funded. Now, when the need for a strong program in Ethnic Studies is particularly compelling, the University plans merely to maintain the current inadequate funding level through 1995-96. We believe Ethnic Studies should be strengthened, and we call on the University to begin now to build a strong Ethnic Studies program.

As a first step toward this goal, we call on the University to take the following actions:

1. Pay back salary to faculty who have taught ethnic studies courses this year without compensation.
2. Hire instructors or graduate teaching fellows to insure that all regularly scheduled courses will be taught for the 1992-93 school year.
3. Provide full-time staff support for the Ethnic Studies program beginning in the 1992-93 school year.

Paid for by Concerned Faculty and GTFs for Peace and Justice
For more information contact 346-5553, 346-2260, or 346-1265