

Status of Major Bills in Congress

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FOREIGN POLICY

Trade (HR 11970) — Would authorize President to abolish tariffs on certain goods; to reduce tariffs by 30 per cent on all other items and provide federal aid to U. S. firms and workers hurt by imports. House — passed; Senate — committee hearings completed.

UN Bonds (HR 9982 & S 2788) — Would authorize the President to lend the United Nations up to \$100 million to help the world organization solve its financial crisis. Senate — passed; House — committee approved compromise that would limit U. S. loan to total loaned by other countries.

DEFENSE AND SPACE

Satellite Communications (HR 11040) — Would charter privately owned corporation to develop, own and control satellite system to relay telephone and telegraph messages and television. House — passed; Senate — passed with some changes. Differences to be considered by House.

Fallout Shelters (HR 10262 & S 2658) — Would authorize federal grants to non-profit groups for construction of approved public fallout shelters. No hearings scheduled on authorization bill by Senate or House; meantime, the House has denied all shelter funds.

WELFARE, EDUCATION

Medical Care (HR 4222 & S 909) — Would provide partial payment of hospitalization and nursing home costs of persons 65 and older. Would raise Social Security tax. Senate — killed compromise version, 52-48. House — committee opposed, but abandoned plans for showdown vote in view of Senate action.

College Aid (HR 8900) — House — passed bill would provide \$1.5 billion over five years in construction loans and grants for college buildings. Senate-passed bill would provide \$1.5 billion in construction loans, \$250 million in building grants for junior colleges and \$300 million for students scholarships. Conference committee negotiations on compromise stalled.

Medical Education (HR 4999 & S 1072) — Would provide \$755 million in federal grants over 10 years for construction of medical, dental and other health profession schools. House bill includes loans for medical students; Senate bill includes scholarship grants. House — approved by commerce committee. Senate — committee hearings completed, awaiting House action.

Youth (HR 10682 & S 404) — Would create new Youth Conservation Corps similar to CCC of 1930s and "Home Town Peace Corps" for volunteer local civic projects. House — approved by labor committee, stalled in rules committee.

Tuberculosis Still

Danger, Says Doctor

New York — Dr. Despitte progress in the fight against tuberculosis, "over 30 million individuals are currently infected with living virulent tubercle bacilli" in the United States, Dr. James E. Perkins, of the National Tuberculosis Association, reports.

He told doctors attending a New York Academy of Science conference that there are more than 10,000 deaths from tuberculosis and 50,000 new cases every year in the United States.

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committee, Senate — Committee approved.

Public Works (S 2965 & HR 10113) — Administration proposed \$600 million immediate program plus \$2 billion in cash with stand-by power to spend in time of recession. Senate — Passed bill which boosts immediate program to \$750 million, cuts stand-by program to \$750 million and denies cash for it until next year. House — Rules committee has cleared for floor action \$900 million immediate program containing no stand-by power.

Women's Wages (HR 1877 & S 2494) — Would require equal pay for women for equal work within single companies with Labor Department authorized to enforce through federal courts. House — Passed; Senate — No hearings scheduled.

Teacher Quality (HR 11888 & S 2826) — Would authorize about \$300 million over five years for expanded cooperative research in teaching improvement and summer college courses for grade and high school teachers. Participants to get \$75 a week stipend plus \$15 for each dependent. House — Education-labor committee approved, stalled in rules committee. Senate — Committee hearings completed.

TAXES, POSTAGE

Tax Revision (HR 10650) — Provides tax credits (reductions) ranging up to \$7 for each \$100 spent by businesses for income-producing equipment. Imposes withholding taxes on dividend and interest payments, and curbs tax deduction for expense accounts. House — Passed; Senate — Committee approved bill after revising tax credits, eliminating withholding and softening proposed expense account rules.

Postal Rates (HR 7927) — Would increase first class, air mail and postcard rates one cent, and raise rates for magazine and advertising mail. House — Passed; Senate — Committee hearings under way.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Literacy Tests (S 2750 & HR 10034) — Would outlaw discriminatory state literacy tests for voters and make sixth grade education proof of literacy; would apply only to federal elections. House — Committee held hearings. Senate — Efforts to pass abandoned after Senate twice refused to stop Southern talkathon.

Poll Taxes (S.J. Res. 29) — Would amend constitution to outlaw state poll taxes or other levies as requirement for voting in federal elections. Senate — Passed; House — Committee approved, no action in rules committee.

School Segregation (HR 10056 & HR 11707) — First would withhold federal aid payments from racially segregated schools crowded by children of servicemen and federal workers; second would repeal authority for aid to "separate but equal" land grant colleges. House — Both bills approved by education-labor committee, stalled in rules committee. Senate — No hearings scheduled.

AGRICULTURE

Government Controls (HR 11222 & S 3223) — Would require growers of corn, other feed grains to choose in national referendum between curbs on plantings to curb surpluses and sharp cut in price guarantees. Senate — Passed; House — rejected.

Acreage Cuts (HR 12391) — Would continue for one year stopgap wheat and feed grain programs, including payments to growers of corn and other feed grains who voluntarily cut plantings to reduce surpluses. House — Passed; Senate — Committee approved after revamping to tighten wheat controls after 1963, pending before Senate.

CITIES

Commuter Transportation (HR 1158 & S 3126) — Provides \$300 million in federal grants to help cities and towns subsidize development of better commuter trains, buses and subways. Senate — Committee approved. House — Banking committee approved, pending in rules committee.

Cabinet (Reorganization plan No. 1) — Would create cabinet-level Department of Urban Affairs and Housing. House — Killed.

GOVERNMENT

Wilderness (S 174 and HR 776) — Would establish a national system for preserving wilderness areas for recreation purposes; could include 6,800,000 acres in 44 states. Senate — Passed; House — Subcommittee approved after making extensive revisions designed to mollify private interests.

Drug Controls (HR 11581 & S 1532) — Would revamp federal controls over marketing of drugs. Senate — Committee approved bill does not contain all strengthening amendments sought by administration. House — Committee hearings resume this week.

Wiretapping (S 2813 & HR

10185) — Would authorize federal officials to gather wiretap evidence with court approval in serious crime investigations, with attorney general's approval in security cases. Senate — Committee hearings in recess. House — Subcommittee hearings in recess.

Crime (S 1655) — Would permit witnesses to be granted immunity and compelled to testify in certain court trials involving graft, bribery and extortion. Senate — Passed; House — in committee; no hearings scheduled.

Government Pay (HR 9531) — Would give 1.8 million postal and civil service workers pay hikes totaling \$1.2 billion a year in two steps, effective July 1, 1962, and July 1, 1963; provides much higher pay increases in lower brackets than administration asked. House — Committee approved. Senate — Hearings completed.

Increased Compensation (HR 10743) — Would give cost of living increases averaging 9.4 per cent to veterans drawing compensation for injuries or ailments resulting from military service. House — Passed; Senate — Committee approved.

Insurance Reinstatement (HR 12333 and S 3597) — To permit veterans who served between 1940 and 1956 to buy, or reinstate, up to \$10,000 in GI life insurance. Senate — Passed; House — Amended to limit insurance reopening to those with service-connected disability. Compromise talks not yet set.

TV Sets (Pub. Law 87-528;

BILLS PASSED, SIGNED

Retraining (Pub. Law 87-415; S 1991) — A three year, \$435 million federal program of retraining subsistence allowances for workers whose jobs have disappeared because of automation or relocation and pilot program of training for youths entering job market.

Disclosure (Pub. Law 87-420; HR 8723) — Requires detailed financial reporting from administrators of company and union managed pension and welfare plans, gives labor department enforcement powers and provides criminal penalties for embezzlement and kickbacks.

Peace Corps (Pub. Law 87-442; HR 10700) — Authorizes enlargement of Peace Corps. **Educational TV (Pub. Law 87-447; S 205)** — Authorizes five-year, \$32 million matching grant program for non-profit educational and civic groups planning to build educational television stations.

Tax Cut (Pub. Law 87-508; HR 11879) — Repeals 10 per cent tax on railroad, bus and water travel and cuts tax to 5 per cent on airline tickets, effective Nov. 15. Extends present temporary tax rates on corporation profits, liquor, automobiles, telephone calls, etc. until July 1, 1963.

National Debt (Pub. Law 87-512; HR 11890) — Raises national debt limit to a record high \$308 billion through next March 31, fixes it at \$305 billion April 1 to June 24, at \$300 billion June 25-30; permanent limit remains at \$285 billion.

TV Sets (Pub. Law 87-528;

HR 8031) — Authorizes the Federal Communications Commission to require manufacturers to make only 82-channel sets.

Sugar (Pub. Law 87-535; HR 12154) — Revamps and extends sugar controls giving domestic growers bigger marketing quotas and eliminating about one-half of the subsidies paid foreign growers.

Sugar (Pub. Law 87-539; HR 8050) — Amends new sugar law to give President discretionary power to provide premium prices to foreign suppliers on additional 150,000 tons a year.

Welfare (Pub. Law 87-543; HR 10806) — Would revise and expand federal participation in state-operated public assistance programs, putting new emphasis on rehabilitation and increasing Federal grants for relief checks for needy aged, blind and disabled.

Foreign Aid (Pub. Law 87-565; S 2998) — Authorizes appropriations of \$4,672,000,000 for year which started July 1, and \$1.8 billion for Latin America for subsequent three years. Administration had requested \$4.9 billion and \$2.4 billion, respectively.

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