

NY governor pressures legislature

ALBANY, N.Y. — In the face of an "after-you-then-me" signal from President Ford, Gov. Hugh Carey is pressuring the legislature for quick action on a New York City tax increase he says is necessary to secure federal aid to help the city avert default.

But the prospects for those taxes were mired in partisan squabbling today with Democrats opposing a city sales-tax increase and Republicans apparently opposing all alternatives to a sales tax.

The negotiations on the issue, which were expected to take most of today in the state legislature's special session, are working against a potential deadline as early as next Tuesday, when the city could face default on some of its obligations.

President Ford said Wednesday he would favor no federal aid until the state and city do more to "move toward fiscal responsibility" and that he would veto a compromise aid bill under study in the House, which he called "irrelevant."

However, Carey said he was "confident" the state would find a source for a crucial \$150 million borrowing needed to hurdle Tuesday's problems and keep the city afloat until Dec. 11, a date which he said would give Congress "plenty of time to act."

Ford issued a statement from the White House declaring that although he cannot now reverse his previous opposition to federal help, he will review the situation early next week to see if the city and state have done enough to warrant a change in his position.

Ford administration sources said in Washington that the President wanted the state legislature to enact \$200 million in new city taxes to trim the size of the city's budget gap, and that if it did so he might approve some sort of aid.

Carey, who had been in Washington most of the week lobbying in Congress, flew back to Albany after Ford's announcement. Pointing to the President's promise to reconsider his stand if the state takes more action, Carey said "we're going to take him up on it," and began a series of meetings with legislators to press for action.

He said he would defer action on tax increases to close what he estimates is a \$600 million state budget gap until after the city tax question is resolved. The state taxes are therefore not expected to come up until next month.

But although both Republicans and Democrats in the legislature expressed a willingness to pass some sort of a tax increase for the city, they were drawing hard partisan lines over the question of which taxes should be increased.

Rate increase refusal brings truckers strike

Associated Press

PHARR, Tex. — A truckers strike called early today by the Produce haulers of Texas got off to a quiet start with virtually no truck traffic on Lower Rio Grande Valley highways.

David Coers, president of the recently organized truckers group, said the strike was called because Valley produce shippers refused to grant a requested 25 per cent rate increase.

Coers said there would be little strike activity until later in the day when trucks started loading produce for shipment to Northern markets. He has said the strike will include picketing and roadblocks and warned there may be violence.

"If they (truckers) don't shut down, I know there's going to be violence," Coers said. "I hope we don't see any violence, but we've got a lot of hot folks down here."

He said truckers from Pennsylvania, Missouri and Arkansas are in the South Texas area to support the strike and he had heard reports that roadblocks might be set up on U.S. 281 and U.S. 77, the two highways leading north from the Valley.

Extra Texas Department of Public Safety units were on duty in the Pharr area and on U.S. 77 near Raymondville, but no incidents were reported.

The DPS director, Col. Wilson E. Speir, said his department will not get involved in the strike but it is the department's responsibility "to prevent any infringement on the free and open use of our highway system, to prevent violence and to provide protection to lives and property."

"We will therefore take such action as is necessary to keep the roads open and to protect against lawlessness," Speir said.

In a letter circulated to truckers, Mike Parkhurst, editor of Overdrive Magazine, told truckers they should "stay the hell out of the McAllen-Pharr area if you want to keep your trucks running."

Willis Deines of the Texas Citrus and Vegetable Growers and Shippers Association says Valley growers cannot afford to pay the rate increase, but he said the strike could be damaging.

Time or preference set for spring preregistration

Preregistration for the Spring Semester 1976, will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 1, 1975, and end at 5 p.m. on Friday, December 5, 1975. Only those students who are currently enrolled for the 1975, Fall Semester will be permitted to preregister during the December 1-December 5 period. Students enrolled in the Fall Semester 1975, will secure registration card packets at the office of the head of their major departments.

AN INSTRUCTOR PREFERENCE IS requested by supplying the section number and writing

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