

# House overrides funding veto

## Democrats still fighting Ford's proposals

Associated Press  
WASHINGTON — The House voted 310 to 113 Tuesday to override President Ford's veto of a \$45 billion bill to fund labor, health, welfare and related programs, giving Democrats an early victory in their election-year drive against Ford's economy proposals.

The override issue now shifts to the Senate, which tentatively plans to vote Wednesday. Democrats in that chamber were optimistic. Rep. Olin E. "Tiger" Teague of College Station voted in support of the President's veto, as did seven other members of the Texas Congressional delegation.

Ford vetoed the bill Dec. 19 because it was nearly \$1 billion above his budget recommendations. He called it "a classic example of... unchecked spending."

The vote came only six days after the President submitted his budget for the next fiscal year, urging Congress to hold to a tight \$394.2 billion spending ceiling.

Republicans pleaded for the veto to be sustained as an indication of Congress' intention to show restraint on the new budget proposals and aim for balance within three years. "This is the first money bill of the session," Rep. Robert H. Michel of Illinois said. "We are setting the spending tone for the session."

Michel, the GOP whip, said a vote to override would be a signal to special interests that they could get what they want from Congress.

Democratic leaders only hours before the vote were telling reporters they had only a fighting chance to override. But when the showdown came 49 Republicans joined 261 Democrats to provide a margin 28 above the two-thirds needed to override. Voting to sustain the veto were 92 Republicans and 21 Democrats.

Both sides agreed that this veto would be one of the most difficult for

Republicans to sustain. The bill funds a variety of politically appealing programs, including maternal and child health care, research on several major diseases, nutrition programs for the aged, vocational rehabilitation and the community services undertakings that are the remnants of President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty.

In a last minute effort to hold Republican and conservative Democratic votes, Michel offered a compromise that would have set the funding at a level \$424 million below that specified in the measure but still \$491 million above Ford's budget recommendation.

Minority Leader John J. Rhodes, R-Ariz., said he was confident Ford would sign such a bill. But Democrats argued even this amount of funding would require cutbacks in vital programs.

Rep. Daniel J. Flood, D-Pa., handling the bill, said it represented an average increase of 7 per cent over

amounts appropriated a year earlier for the same programs.

"That barely provides for the inflation cost — just barely," Flood told the House. "It is exactly the 7 per cent of inflation, no more, no less... it provides a minimum level of funding."

## Off-campus group considers possible course for Free U.

Easy cooking, efficient budgeting, apartment decorating and lease interpretation are topics for a possible course to be offered this semester through Free University and sponsored by Hassle Free.

An "Up With People" spokesman also addressed the Hassle Free meeting last night.

Hassle Free is a volunteer student organization designed to reach off-campus students. Future plans include: a study comparing the costs of off-campus and on-campus living, the promotion of semester-long leases and the planning of a program for freshmen at summer orientation.

Any persons interested in the off-campus living course may contact the Student Programs Office for information.

The spokesman for "Up With People," an internationally known musical group, said the group is hunting for housing for its 140 members while they perform at Texas A&M.

Students willing to house an "Up With People" member may contact the Student Programs Office, MSC, 216.

The group will perform Feb. 4 and 5 in Rudder Auditorium.

## Teague admits to Bahamas junket

Associated Press  
WASHINGTON — Shortly after Rockwell International was named prime contractor on a \$5-billion space shuttle program, Rep. Olin Teague, D-Tex., chairman of the House Space and Technology Committee, accepted an invitation for a trip to Rockwell's resort in The Bahamas.

Teague said today he accepted the 1973 trip, that Sen. Herman Talmadge also went along and that it was all business. But a spokesman for Talmadge said the Georgia senator went to do some deep-sea fishing and even brought back a marlin.

Teague said the trip was "a weekend of work. There was no hunting and no fishing. The president of Rockwell asked if I would go to talk about the shuttle that weekend and I said, 'Sure.'"

The College Station, Tex., congressman said he flew to Bimini at Rockwell's expense.

A spokesman for Talmadge said the senator had previously acknowledged taking the trip, and that he went there to do some fishing.

Under House rules of ethical conduct, members, officers or employees cannot accept gifts "of substantial value, directly or indirectly, from any persons, organization or corporation having a direct interest in legislation before Congress."

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