



Bush to veto anti-terrorism bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration threatened Tuesday to veto the Senate's \$31.4 billion anti-terrorism bill, setting up an election-year duel over a package that the White House says has grown too costly.

The bill's mostly Democratic defenders pressed ahead anyway, and fired back at Republicans who promised to offer amendments cutting the bill's price tag.

the rest of the federal fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30. Like the Senate measure, his plan is dominated by funds for defense, intelligence, aviation safety, local law enforcement and aid to help New York rebuild from the attacks. Most Senate add-ons are for domestic security programs.

In a statement delivered to senators, the White House budget office said senior advisers would urge Bush to veto the

House said could not possibly be spent this year.

The statement also said only half the \$40 billion Congress and Bush provided for anti-terror programs last fall has been spent — further reducing the need for additional spending. And it said the administration will oppose amendments boosting the bill's price tag. Such amendments, totaling billions of dollars, have been written by senators of both parties.

The GOP-led House approved a \$29 billion version last month. White House officials have called it acceptable because it includes a conditional \$1.8 billion extra for the Pentagon that the administration says it would not expect to spend.

After delivering the statement to Republican senators, White House budget director Mitchell Daniels said the Senate should pass a measure "at a level which really we believe meets the nation's needs, but is really all the nation can afford."

Sen. Ted Stevens of Alaska, top Republican on the Appropriations panel and co-author of the bill, called the veto threat "just a tactic of the administration."

"We'll work this out" by the time a compromise House-Senate bill is finished, he said.

Despite pleas by Byrd, Stevens and others to hasten work on the bill, Sens. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, and John McCain, R-Ariz., said they planned several amendments that would cut the measure's spending.

"It's easy to sit around and carp and complain and criticize."

— Robert Byrd
Senate Appropriations Committee chairman

measure as written by the Democrat-dominated Senate.

"The Senate bill includes scores of unneeded items that total billions of dollars — all classified as an 'emergency,'" the statement said. "The bill adds unrequested funds for numerous programs and projects throughout nearly all of the federal agencies."

Projects the administration found objectionable include \$100 million to secure Russian nuclear weapons and \$315 million for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention construction — which the White

Pay disparity remains between men, women

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Women in the United States earned only 73 cents for every dollar men were paid in 1999, though the gap narrowed during the 1990s, according to census figures released Tuesday.

Women gained roughly 7 cents on the dollar over the 10-year period, according to the Census Bureau's long form.

The figure does not necessarily mean that women are being paid less than men for doing the same job. Instead, the census looked at earnings in 1999 for full-time workers in all industries and found that the national median income for men is \$35,922 and \$26,292 for women.

"I would say we have a long way to go toward closing the gap," said Marianne Hill, an economist for the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning.

Experts said the main reasons for the wage gap are that women often take time off to have children and lose experience and pay because of it; that women often choose lower-paying professions, such as teaching and social work; and that women are discriminated against when it comes to promotions and raises.

"I don't see it becoming equal until women become much more equal in terms of who's taking care of the kids at home and who's doing house work," Hill said.

Karen Nussbaum, assistant to the president of AFL-CIO in Washington, said a recent study by her group attributed about half of the wage gap to discrimination. One of the biggest reasons for the narrowing of the gap was that high-paying manufacturing jobs held by men have gone overseas, she said.

Colin Bennett, a labor economist for the Employment Policy Foundation, agreed that women face discrimination but said the gap is more complicated than bias. "A lot of demographic factors are involved," he said.

The disparity ranged from women earning 60 cents on the dollar in Wyoming, where the traditionally male mining and oil industries dominate, to 90 cents on the dollar in Washington, D.C., where women are more likely than men to hold high-paying government jobs.

Bennett projected that the wage gap could close within 30 years as women continue to enter high-paying jobs and child care becomes more evenly split between parents.

Nussbaum disagreed, pointing to a recent congressional study that said women professionals and managers had lost ground in the past 10 years.

"This is not steady progress in one direction," she said.

Bush admits intelligence failure

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush said Tuesday the CIA and FBI failed to communicate adequately before Sept. 11. Congress began extraordinary closed-door hearings into intelligence lapses with bipartisan promises the inquiry will search for facts, not scapegoats.

"We're up and running with momentum," said Rep. Porter Goss, R-Fla., chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, who will run the first week of the joint Senate-House intelligence committee hearings.

"We will be a fact-driven inquiry," Goss said as he stood next to Sen. Bob Graham, the Florida Democrat who will run the hearing on alternate weeks, under the rules the joint committee adopted during its first meeting Tuesday.

"We will not be driven by outside pressures," Goss said.

Hours before the committee met for the first time behind closed doors, Bush, in his most explicit criticism yet of FBI and CIA actions before the attacks, said: "I think it's clear

that they weren't communicating properly."

But, speaking at the National Security Agency, Bush also said there is no evidence that officials could have averted attacks, even if agencies worked together better.

The House-Senate intelligence committee will examine just that point, and others, seeks to uncover what might have pointed to the plane attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, and to prevent lapses in the future.

Assault

Continued from page 1

Even with education and efforts to promote awareness of date rape and sexual assault involving a stranger, some sexual assaults cannot be prevented.

Lemay emphasized that if someone is sexually assaulted, it is never the victim's fault.

"Don't fault the victim," Lemay said. "It can happen to anyone, anywhere, at anytime [even with education]."

The UPD has not had any reported sexual assaults involving strangers on campus since 1994. On campus, only one in four of all sexual assaults are reported. Lemay said most sexual assaults involving strangers are reported, where as many

sexual assaults with acquaintances, including date rape, unreported to University officials or the police.

Lemay reminds students education remains the key prevention.

"Be aware of your surroundings, the people around you, attention, and trust your instincts," Lemay said. "Know and understand that it can happen."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Candidates deliver negative blows to Senate opponents

DALLAS (AP) — Negative blows wielded recently by Republican Senate candidate John Cornyn's campaign represent "what's wrong with politics" and "it's the reason people get turned off by the electoral process," Democratic candidate Ron Kirk said Tuesday evening, vowing to avoid nastiness in his campaign.

Cornyn spokesman Dave Beckwith said comments from the Cornyn camp were only attempts to raise issues that are important to Texans.

"Since when is it negative campaigning to talk about differences in issues," Beckwith said. "Mr. Kirk apparently finds it inconvenient to talk about issues and thinks if he ignores them, they'll go away."

Kirk's comments in an interview with The Associated Press came after several comments recently from Cornyn's camp, which accused Kirk of being AWOL after the April 9 primary runoff and of adopting a "me too" style campaigning with issues indistinguishable from his opponent's.

Cornyn said last week that Kirk only takes stands on issues that Cornyn addressed first. After each of the Cornyn campaign's comments, Kirk's campaign refused to fire back, and Kirk said Tuesday he'll have it no other way.

"I think their behavior and their rhetoric and their conduct speaks for itself and it represents what's wrong with politics and it represents the status quo," Kirk said in a two-hour interview. "It's like somebody just sent them a page out of the Republican manual: how to run and demoralize your opponent."

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