

House OKs \$96.5B for Social Spending; \$0 for Abortions

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The House, overwhelmingly approving a \$96.5 billion social spending bill, Thursday reaffirmed its 7-year-old stand against using government funds for abortions.

The vote was 310-101 for the bill that allocates money for the departments of Labor, Education and Health and Human Services and related agencies for fiscal 1984, which begins Oct. 1.

During the debate, the House defeated an attempt to strip the bill of its anti-abortion language, voting 231-184 for even tougher language than the existing law includes.

Because of the addition of more education and training programs Thursday, the bill is \$3.8 billion over Reagan's original request. But Massachusetts Rep. Silvio Conte, the Appropriations Committee's senior Republican, said he still expects the president to sign the legislation if the Senate exercises similar restraint.

Conte, the Appropriations Committee's senior Republican, and administration officials had tentatively agreed that the president would sign

it if additions remained in the \$3.5 billion range.

It would mark the first time in five years that such a social spending bill has passed Congress and been signed by the president. In the meantime, the affected departments and agencies have been financed through a series of stopgap spending measures, known as a "continuing resolution."

The anti-abortion language was strengthened because Rep. Les AuCoin, D-Ore., suggested the wording in the bill that bans government financing of abortion, except when the life of the mother is endangered, violates House rules because it amounts to legislating in an appropriations mea-

sure. The chair upheld AuCoin's point of order, even though that language has been included in every social spending bill since 1976.

Conte subsequently offered an amendment to restore the language that bans government financing of abortions, but because of a House technicality he could not include the qualifying phrase to allow abortions when the life of the mother is in danger. The amendment passed 231-184.

Conte failed to obtain unanimous consent to include the qualifying phrase, meaning the language is now stronger than existing law. Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., champion

Abortion Ban

Amendment to reaffirm and strengthen the ban on use of federal funds for abortions

	YES	NO
G. Wortley, Fayetteville	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
S. Lundine, Jamestown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
M. McHugh, Ithaca	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Martin, Canton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F. Horton, Rochester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
S. Boehlert, New Hart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

of the anti-abortion movement, predicted, however, that the life-of-the-mother exception will be added during an eventual conference with the Senate.

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National Briefs

15 Hostages Slip Away Unharmed During Hospital Cafeteria Siege

WOODLAND, Calif. (AP) — A man with a shotgun entered a hospital cafeteria Thursday and held 15 people hostage for nearly two hours, saying his son had been poisoned at the facility, police said. No injuries were reported.

The hostages, following instructions on a card held up by a police officer through a window, escaped while the gunman's back was turned, and he surrendered a half hour later, one of the hostages said later.

The gunman was identified by police as Scott Craig, 31, of Woodland.

Police said the siege began shortly before 1 p.m. at Woodland Memorial Hospital.

Hospital psychologist Pete Venezia said Craig was "disillusioned and disturbed."

"He believed his son was terminally ill and he wanted to talk to someone in officialdom," the psychologist said. He said there is nothing wrong with Craig's son.

FCC Proposes End to Rule Setting Limits on TV-Radio Ownership

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Federal Communications Commission, in the first major revision of its kind in 30 years, Thursday proposed eliminating or relaxing restrictions that forbid ownership of more than seven television and radio stations by one entity.

The panel voted 3-1 to adopt a notice of a proposed rule that would alter the so-called seven-station rule.

Under existing FCC regulations the single ownership of more than seven television stations, seven AM and seven FM radio stations is prohibited.

The three major networks now own five television stations each.

Newsboy's Death May Be Linked To 2 Other Cases in Midwest

BELLEVUE, Neb. (AP) — The slaying of a 13-year-old newspaper carrier may be linked to the disappearance of a boy in Iowa last year and a recent attempt to kidnap a girl in Nebraska, the FBI said Thursday.

"We're keeping agents on the case only because we're not satisfied there was no interstate transportation," said Herb Hawkins, special agent in charge of the FBI for Nebraska and Iowa.

Hawkins said it was possible that Danny Joe Eberle, who had been missing since Sunday morning, was taken into Iowa before he was slain. The boy's body was found Wednesday near a little-used road south of Bellevue. Sarpy County Sheriff Pat Thomas said he had been stabbed several times.

Virtually from the beginning, officials linked Eberle's disappearance to the case of Johnny Gosch, 12, who was last seen about 6 a.m. Sept. 5, 1982, while delivering the Des Moines (Iowa) Sunday Register. Gosch, of West Des Moines, has not been found.

The FBI also is working with local authorities investigating a possible attempted abduction of another newspaper carrier in Sarpy County.

Thomas said his office is "following every lead" in an alleged abduction attempt of an 11-year-old girl delivering copies of the Omaha World-Herald about 4:45 p.m. Tuesday. She told officers a man in a small, newer-model red hatchback car pulled up alongside her and motioned for her to come to his car.

Rep. Gramm Announces He'll Run To Succeed Tower in Senate

AUSTIN, Texas (UPI) — Rep. Phil Gramm, announced Thursday he will run for the Senate seat being vacated by veteran John Tower and predicted his recent party switch from Democrat to Republican will not be a factor.

"I didn't just join the Republican Party," Gramm said. "I didn't just change parties. I did the right thing, the honorable thing."

Gramm, 41, a former "Boll Weevil" who bolted the Democratic Party nine months ago in a dispute over his work on behalf of President Reagan's economic policies, said his acceptance by the GOP should help him with conservative Democrats in his campaign.

"I think the fact that I'm considered a serious candidate, maybe the leading candidate, sends a very good signal to hundreds of thousands of conservative Democrats who do not feel themselves to be part of the national party," he said.

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