

THE URBAN COALITION ACTION COUNCIL

JOHN W. GARDNER
CHAIRMAN
1819 H STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

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WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT (Current as of June 14, 1968)

FROM: The Staff

The Status of Substantive Legislation

The Emergency Employment and Training Act of 1968

Senate hearings have been completed.

Subcommittee Chairman Clark has not been able to set up a meeting to discuss the broad, bi-partisan approach to this legislation (with Javits and Prouty), thus mark-up will be delayed.

Administration Position

There is no change in the Administration's position of opposition to the bill expected to be evidenced during debate.

Status of House Legislation

The Select Subcommittee on Labor intends to schedule more hearings, but it is not definite as to when. There is a remote possibility that hearings can be completed before the end of the month.

The Revenue and Expenditure Control Act of 1968 (formerly the Tax Adjustment Act of 1968)

As previously reported, the Senate-House Conferees agreed on a 10 per cent tax surcharge with \$6 billion in budget cuts.

The President has reluctantly agreed to accept the \$6 billion in budget cuts. Indications are a substantial amount of this will be out of non-essential defense and space programs.

Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968

Senate

The Senate filed a clean bill, S. 3497, and passed it substantially as introduced on May 28.

House

The Housing Subcommittee of the House Banking and Currency Committee has reported out its version of the bill.

The bill is being marked-up by full Committee. Titles I through V have been acted on, with Title IV (bonding for New Communities) dropped altogether. The Senate allowed \$250 million for Title IV.

Realistically, the bill will not come up for passage in the House until mid-July.

The Status of Appropriations Measures

The proposed schedule of action on the part of the Appropriations Subcommittees concerning legislation of interest to the Action Council is:

1. The Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 1969 passed the House on May 8. It is in the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Independent Offices. Hearings have been completed but the bill will not go to mark-up until the NASA authorization bill clears the Conference Committee (NASA's appropriation is part of the HUD appropriation bill).

The appropriations process for HUD is complicated by the fact that HUD is asking the Senate Committee to approve appropriations which are authorized in

this year's Housing Act: '\$1.4 billion for Urban Renewal (including projects in Model City areas) for Fiscal Year 1970 plus \$350 million in renewal grants for Model City areas for Fiscal Year 1969.

To avoid the need for a supplemental appropriation, the Administration would prefer holding up action on the Appropriations bill until the Housing Act of 1968 is passed and signed.

2. The Labor-HEW (including OEO) Appropriations bill has not yet been marked-up in Subcommittee. The bill is stalled because of an apprehension it will be cut up if reported soon. Strong efforts are warranted now to get the bill out and preserve the vital appropriations for education and anti-poverty.

3. The Regular Supplemental for Fiscal Year 1968 has been passed by the House and is in mark-up in the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on Supplementals, chaired by Senator Pastore.

No funds for Head Start or Summer Jobs programs were included in the House bill.

An attempt will be made by Senator Yarborough on June 17 to add \$25 million for Head Start in Subcommittee. Senator Javits, who attempted to add \$51 million for Summer Jobs and \$25 million for Head Start to the Highway Appropriations bill on June 13 (the motion to table carried by only 44 to 32, making his effort close though unsuccessful), will likely join in this effort and may try to get funding for Summer Jobs also.

If the Senate does not add funds for these two programs in the Supplemental appropriations bill, it is unlikely any other effort will succeed.

4. The Urgent Supplemental Appropriation bill for 1968 is still technically in Conference Committee. Although it contains the funding for Head Start and Summer Jobs, for all practical purposes, this measure is dead. No one should be misled because the Conference Committee has been holding meetings on the bill. They are merely going through the motions.