



Legislative Alert

WEEK OF

APRIL 13, 1981

WEEKLY BULLETIN

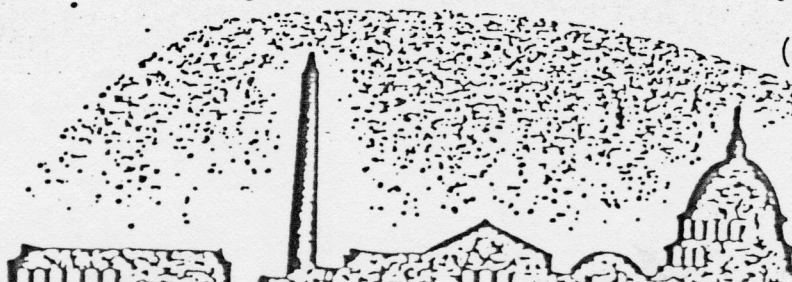
This is the first of the Legislative Alert WEEKLY BULLETINS. They will appear on Fridays for the following week and will be mailed to Boston.

- * Ernest Lefever Nomination - Although he sits in his office at the State Department Bureau of Human Rights, Lefever's nomination has not been sent up to the Foreign Relations Committee. First there were delays in his background investigation, then Senator Percy let it be known that he is not pleased with the nomination, and, of course, people like Paul Tsongas have kept up a steady barrage of criticism and protest. The problems with Lefever are: 1) serious questions have been raised about his stability under pressure, 2) he is an advocate of dismantling the human rights standard as we know it, 3) he has unsavory associations with South Africa and its "infogate" scandal, and 4) he authored a venomous attack on Martin Luther King in 1970. At this time, Paul Tsongas and other Democrats on the Committee are waiting for the nomination to come before the Committee. (CHRIS CHAMBERLIN)
- * Paul will co-sponsor Kennedy's gun control bill which will be introduced April 9th. The bill would ban the importation, manufacture, sale, and/or transfer of Saturday night specials. (RANDY NAIMAN)
- * The House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Civil Liberties, and the Administration of Justice completed six days of hearings on the Legal Services Corporation. Mark-up will take place today (April 7). Rodino's bill (HR 2506) asks that Legal Services Corporation be funded at last year's level of \$321.3 million. The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee endorsed Reagan's proposal to eliminate the Corporation and to transfer the authority to spend funds into a block grant. The Committee proposed \$100 million (or 30% of the FY1981 budget) for legal services be included in Reagan's block grant program. There will be further developments in regard to the Legal Aid Corporation. (RANDY NAIMAN)
- * The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry concluded

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hearings April 6th on proposed reauthorizations for food and agriculture programs (food stamps).

The Committee on Labor and Human Resources, Subcommittee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for alcohol and drug abuse education programs. Also concluded hearings on the Administration's proposal to place these programs in the educational block grant structure, focusing on the impact of the program on the communities being served and the federal and state role in the continuation of these programs. (BRENDA WELBURN)

- * The Special Committee on Aging will hold oversight hearings on April 9th to determine if certain energy assistance programs are meeting home insulation needs of elderly victims of extreme heat and cold. The Labor and Human Resources Subcommittee on Aging, Family and Human Services will hold hearings also on April 9th on proposed legislation to authorize funds for the Domestic Volunteer Services Act. (BRENDA WELBURN)
- * The Committee on Labor and Human Resources will resume hearings on April 10th on proposed authorizations for FY 1982 for health professions block grants and preventive health block grants. (BRENDA WELBURN)
- * Paul cosponsored a resolution introduced by Sen. Pell which proclaims Raoul Wallenberg to be an honorary citizen of the U.S. and requests the President to ascertain from the U.S.S.R. the whereabouts of Wallenberg and to secure his return to freedom. (LAWRY PAYNE)
- * EXPORT TRADING COMPANIES- The Senate on April 7 or April 8 will take up the Export Trading Company bill. Paul is one of the primary sponsors of the bill (with Danforth, Heinz, Bentsen). ETC's are an attempt to learn from our most successful trading partners in Japan and Europe. ETC legislation will do two things: 1) Provide a certification process-- a rubber stamp-- from the Department of Commerce to potential trading organizations. Many companies are afraid to work together to trade, they fear anti-trust suits. Title I of the bill provides a simple solution; potential trading relationships are suggested to Commerce which evaluates them to see if they'll trade and not hinder consumers domestically. 2) Allow banks to own controlling interests in ETC's. Banks have international expertise; offices throughout the world, knowledge of exchange rates, business leaders, etc. Banks could use these strengths providing one-stop shopping for small and medium size businesses that want their products sold internationally. Banks are currently prohibited from such activities. (BOB BARBERA)
- * NEW TSONGAS BILL---- COMMERCIAL & MULTIFAMILY ENERGY TAX CREDIT
Now out for comment. Likely introduction time is after the upcoming recess. (For more info contact Marty Rothfelder-Legal Fellow- D.C. Office)
The bill has four sections: 1) Makes commercial facilities (eg. office bldgs., retail stores) eligible for 10% additional energy investment tax credit and expands the list of energy improvements that qualify (eg. insulation, storm windows). 2) Allows landlords to get 15% and 40% residential energy tax credit for conservation and renewable resources respectively. 3) Raises the expenditure limit on the conservation credit

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to \$3000 from \$2000 and the solar credit to \$15,000 from \$10,000 to account for inflation. 4) Changes the date that business tax credits expire from December 31, 1982 to 1985. (MITCH TYSON)

* SOLAR & CONSERVATION BANKS -- NOT DEAD YET!

House Appropriations Subcommittee Boland is indicating support for the Conservation Bank but not Solar. Paul and Sen. Kennedy sent a letter to Boland last Monday urging support for the Solar Bank. Subcommittee mark-up could occur this week. House Banking Committee and Housing Subcommittee Chairmen are urging only a cut in first year funds not elimination. The Senate side is more uncertain. Remember we have to watch Appropriations, Budget, Energy, and Banking Committees-- both House and Senate sides. So there are many battles ahead. Sen. Hatfield, Chairman of Senate Appropriations is said to favor Solar and Conservation Bank funding. Will keep you posted. (MITCH TYSON)

* NOPS - NATIONAL OCEAN POLICY STUDY.

Paul has become a member of the NOPS which is administered by the Senate Commerce Committee and has oversight responsibility for all ocean-related issues. Established in 1974, NOPS has members from all standing committees with ocean jurisdiction. It exercises oversight by holding hearings. Issues likely to be examined include the fishing industry, Law of the Sea, Georges Bank, and coastal zone management. Paul's membership will give us an additional forum through which to get involved in economic development, environmental, energy, and international ocean issues. Field hearings are possible but the budget is tight. The best news is that Democrats can chair hearings. (Contacts: Missy and Mitch) (MITCH TYSON)

* HART-TSONGAS AMENDMENT - Last week Hart and Tsongas offered an amendment to the Senate Budget Reconciliation bill to combine several energy subfunctions and spread the Reagan cuts evenly across conservation, solar, fossil, and nuclear. Opponents did not oppose it on the merits of the cuts, but on the ground that it would eliminate the flexibility of the authorizing and appropriating committees. That is merely budget doubletalk. Although we got only 32 votes, (see budget votes below), we were able to put together a coalition of conservation, solar, fossil, and alcohol democrats. We were unable to break loose many Republicans that are our traditional allies (eg. Percy, Mathias, Hatfield). 32, by the way, wasn't that bad. The battlefield switches back to the Energy Committee where we will fight out the specific cuts, probably in May. (MITCH TYSON)

* Our office and the U.S. Conference of Mayors is convening a working group on the enterprise zones/ greenlining bills. The initial group will be Senate staffers, for the purpose of bringing people up to date on the legislative proposals, to be increased to involve other public interest groups for the purposes of policy/strategy. (MISSY GREALLY)

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- * The House Budget Committee is working all week on the FY 82 budget. Congressman Donnelly is taking a leadership role on increasing funds for the energy conservation and fuel assistance programs, and is working with us on including report language which endorses the idea of an energy block grant program for local governments.

The budget presented by the House Democrats includes protection of the UDAG program (unfortunately with funds taken from the CDBG program), a \$350 million EDA program, retention of Mass Transit operating subsidies, 220,000 units of assisted housing (Carter levels), \$2.75 billion for CETA training programs, \$300-400 million in energy conservation and \$100-200 million for solar (including the solar and conservation bank).

The Budget Committee will take up the FY81 reconciliation bill last, after completing work on the FY82 budget, and presumably a favorable outcome for some of these programs will also have a positive impact on the proposed recisions for FY81. It is therefore possible that, for example, critical EDA projects in the FY81 pipeline may potentially be fundable.
(MISSY GREALY)

- * Last week when the Senate FY81 Budget Resolution was on the floor, Tsongas and the Budget Committee Chairman Domenici did a colloquy on the UDAG program (attached). Tsongas had planned to do an amendment to add the \$300 million for this program which was cut by the Budget Committee, but could not get enough support, and was concerned that a bad defeat on this amendment would hurt the program in subsequent steps in the process. The colloquy establishes the fact that an FY 81-83 program can be accomplished within the dollars given to the Senate Banking Committee. This will, fo course, mean that other Banking Committee programs (Housing, CDBG, Mass Transit, EXIM Bank, etc.) would be required to undergo off-setting cuts. Banking Committee action has not yet been scheduled, and no formal administration bill from HUD has been prepared.
(MISSY GREALY)

- * HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION ACT- Surface Transportation Subcommittee to hold a hearing on April 28. The Act gives DOT responsibility for regulating transport of toxic, hazardous and non-defense nuclear materials. (Contact: Jan Roseneck, 224-0411, Committee Minority Staff)
(RICH ARENBERG)

- * BOTTLE BILL

Paul has again cosponsored the Bottle Bill (S 709, HR 2498). The legislation would require retailers to charge a 5 cent deposit on every can or bottle. The retailer would keep 2 cents. Unclaimed deposits would be given to distributors. Seven states now have bottle bills. Senate Commerce plans summer hearings. (The bill was introduced by Chairman Packwood of Commerce and Chairman Hatfield of Appropriations. Both, of course, are from Oregon which has had a very positive experience with a state law.)
(RICH ARENBERG)

* VOTES OF INTEREST

Budget Reconciliation Act Votes

PRYOR- direct Appropriations to reduce government procure-
ment by \$2 billion- including defense (35-65)(PT=yes)

CHILES- restore \$300 million FY82 for veterans health programs
(44-56)(PT=yes)

CRANSTON- restore \$104 million FY82 for veterans health programs
(44-55)(PT=yes)

HELMS- (part 1) restore \$200 million FY82 for school lunch
program (87-9)(PT=yes)

HELMS- (part 2) reduce \$900 million FY82 for foreign aid
(70-26)(PT=no)

BOREN- reduce \$104 million FY82 for foreign aid and restore
to veteran health programs(44-48)(PT=yes)

SASSER- restore \$181 million FY82 for school lunch program
(35-54)(PT=yes)

RIEGLE- restore \$800 million FY82 to permit current minimum
SS recipients to continue receiving payments after
the program is eliminated. Government Affairs Committee
programs would be cut \$800 million - PAUL WAS A
COSPONSOR (39-55)(PT=Not Voting)

STEVENS- restore \$1.5 billion FY82 for strategic petroleum
reserve (23-71)(PT=Not Voting)

BRADLEY- restore \$3 billion FY82 for strategic petroleum reserve
(17-81)(PT=Not Voting)

McCLURE- restore \$3 billion FY82 for strategic petroleum reserve
by cutting for all other energy programs except
military (22-76)(PT=Not Voting)

MOYNIHAN- restore \$150 million FY82 for higher education grants
(30-67)(PT=Not Voting)

MOYNIHAN- restore \$600 million FY82 for elementary and secondary
education programs (33-65)(PT=Not Voting)

CHAFEE- restore \$1.2 billion for FY82 for elementary and
secondary education, low-income fuel aid, UDAG,
urban mass transit, community health centers, and
energy weatherization (40-59) PAUL WAS A COSPONSOR
(PT=yes)

MITCHELL- restore \$720 million FY82 for EDA(37-59)(PT=yes)

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WEICKER- restore \$155 million FY82 small business loan programs- PAUL WAS A COSPONSOR (28-68)(PT=yes)

HART- restore \$2.2 billion in budget authority FY82, but deepen FY81 outlays cuts by \$34 million and FY82 outlays cuts by \$13 million. Funds would be shifted from nuclear programs to the solar energy bank and gasahol programs- THIS WAS THE HART-TSONGAS AMENDMENT (32-65)(PT=yes)

KENNEDY- restore \$150 million FY82 for preventive health care program (36-62)(PT=yes)

METZENBAUM-restore \$400 million for youth training programs (24-74)(PT=yes)

BRADLEY- restore \$803 million FY82 for NSF, trade adjustment, Conrail, and mass transit programs (22-76)(PT=yes)

HOLLINGS- deepen cuts by changing the index used to adjust government retirement programs for inflation by \$2.6 billion in outlays FY82 (12-86)(PT=no)

METZENBAUM-permit consideration of amendment to require Finance Committee to tighten tax loopholes by \$1.3 billion in FY82 (15-81)(PT=yes)

PROXMIRE- deepen cuts by 2.4 billion FY82 (15-81)(PT=no)

PROXMIRE- reduce by \$665 million FY82 for EXIM Bank (19-77)(PT=no)

DECONCINI deepen cuts by 3.9 billion FY82 through reduction of waste, fraud, and abuse (43-53)(PT=yes)

BUMPERS- restore \$6 million FY82 for child immunization program (44-54)(PT=yes)

EAGLETON- restore \$400 million FY82 for trade adjustment assistance (29-69)(PT=no)

EAGLETON- restore \$78 million FY82 for NSF research and education programs(21-77)(PT=yes)

MOYNIHAN- direct committees to distribute budget cuts among states on the principle of "equal sacrifice" (19-79) (PT=no)

RIEGLE- restore \$285 million FY82 for unemployment insurance programs (38-60)(PT=yes)

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GLENN- restore \$75 million FY82 for Employment
Opportunity Pilot Program (22-77)(PT=yes)

BIDEN- restore \$400 million FY82 for low-income energy
assistance program (37-61)(PT=yes)

KENNEDY- restore \$116 million FY82 for juvenile justice
program (26-72)(PT=yes)

CHILES- restore \$100 million FY81,82,83 for vocational
education (46-52) (PT=yes)

On FINAL PASSAGE, the vote on S. Con. Res. 9 was (88-10)-
PAUL VOTED NO.

The ten no votes were cast by:

| | |
|----------|------------|
| Cranston | Metzenbaum |
| Dodd | Pell |
| Eagleton | Sarbanes |
| Kennedy | Tsongas |
| Levin | Weicker |

(RICH ARENBERG)

* I would appreciate feed-back on this first issue of the
Legislative Alert WEEKLY BULLETIN (RICH ARENBERG)

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