

Winter, 1983

SENATOR

Paul Tsongas Reports

Tsongas Pushing Urban Revival in State

**Western Gateway
Urban Heritage State Park**

HERITAGE STATE PARKS
ISP

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JOHN A. BEWICK, SECRETARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
WILLIAM FM. HICKS, COMMISSIONER OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
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WESTERN GATEWAY ASSOCIATES, DEVELOPER

CT MALE ASSOCIATES, P.C., ARCHITECT
NORFLORE CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION, CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

A program funded and administered with the assistance of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by its Executive Office of Environmental Affairs through its Department of Environmental Management.
Funded in part with the assistance of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development through Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended.
A project of the North Adams Redevelopment Authority acting by and through the Office of the Mayor.



Senator Tsongas presides over groundbreaking ceremony at urban park in North Adams.

Photo by Lewis C. Cuyler

Dear Friends,

During the coming months, Congress will act to secure the future of our Social Security program.

As you are probably well aware, the Social Security system is faced with a financial crisis. As matters now stand, the system will require \$150 billion to \$200 billion extra dollars to meet its obligations through the 1980s.

All the same, I believe there is cause for optimism.

First, I know that most members of Congress from both parties are committed to the solvency of the system. They are ready to make whatever hard choices are necessary.

Second, there is a spirit of pulling together on the issue across a broad spectrum of congressional leaders. The package of proposals put forward by Congressman Claude Pepper, Senators Dole and Moynihan and others on the Social Security Commission has the support of House Speaker Tip O'Neill and the President, and I believe is a sound basis for a solution.

Social Security represents a contract between our government and our citizens. The system has proven its enormous value to our society. I have no doubt Congress will preserve that contract and keep the essential elements of Social Security intact.

Sincerely,



Rejuvenating Massachusetts cities has been one of Senator Tsongas' top priorities during the past four years.

While cities from Boston to Pittsfield still face a nagging array of problems, they have been making headway in important areas. They owe part of their progress to two Federal programs, Urban Development Action Grants (UDAG) and Industrial Development Bonds (IDB).

Senator Tsongas has been a staunch supporter of these programs, both by fighting for them in Congress and by committing his Massachusetts staff to help municipalities take full advantage of them.

The commonwealth has been a leader among the states in participating in the UDAG and IDB programs. The Massachusetts UDAG projects, ranging from factories to hotels, have generated \$1 billion in private investment and 30,000 permanent jobs, more than 6000 of them in Boston alone.

Under the UDAG program, administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, municipalities use federal "seed money" to attract private investment in urban development. The IDB program provides low-interest loans to expanding businesses (1100 Massachusetts firms have qualified since 1978, triggering \$1.5 billion in new investment).

Among the Massachusetts projects that have benefitted from UDAG or IDB programs, with Senator Tsongas' assistance, are: conversion of a defunct Army base in Boston into a garment center for 28 Chinatown companies; a \$12 million office complex for Aetna Life and Casualty in downtown Fall River; an \$18 million computer assembly plant for Wang Laboratories Inc. in Holyoke; development of

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Ending Bias Against Women

Senator Tsongas is one of the principal sponsors of legislation pending in Congress that would combat economic discrimination against women.

He was one of 10 senators who introduced the bill, the Economic Equity Act, in the Senate two years ago. It would achieve reforms in public and private pension laws, Federal tax policy and insurance and government regulations.

Women still face economic barriers in a host of Federal laws

and regulations and in many common practices among employers and government agencies.

This year the Economic Equity Act has 24 Senate supporters, including Senator Tsongas, and his efforts to pass the legislation are continuing. It is backed by more than 20 women's organizations.

Senator Tsongas may seek to strengthen the bill by proposing amendments related to day-care and Social Security. Passage of the bill would secure gains such as equal opportunity for women in the military and under Civil Service.

Parts of the Economic Equity Act -- including provisions pertaining to retirement benefits, estate taxes and credit -- were enacted into law in August 1982.

He has also been a leader in the congressional campaign to pass the Equal Rights Amendment. With Senator Packwood of Oregon, he reintroduced the ERA in the Senate on July 14 of last year.

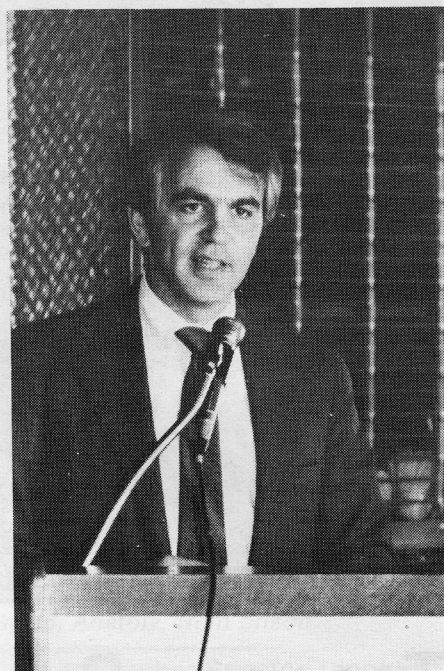
Reintroducing the ERA, the constitutional amendment guaranteeing equal rights for men and women in the United States, is necessary for passage because the period for ratification ended last year three states short of the 38 required for approval.

Thus the process must begin anew. So far, supporters include 54 senators, as well as more than 200 members of the House of Representatives.

The ERA states, simply: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

Senator Tsongas met recently with representatives of the American Association of University Women, National Organization of Women, Business and Professional Women's Clubs, League of Women Voters and the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights to plan strategy for the ERA.

He plans to continue a close working relationship with these groups and others concerned about securing equal rights for men and women until the ERA is enacted.



Senator Tsongas addresses the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce at luncheon recognizing its SBA certification.

Tsongas Opposes Breeder Reactor

The \$3.6 billion Clinch River Breeder Reactor, which the Congress narrowly reauthorized in late 1982, has been steadily losing support on Capitol Hill.

In December the House at first voted to stop all money for Clinch River, but later agreed to restrictive funding. The Senate backed the project by a scant one-vote margin.

Since he entered Congress in 1975, Senator Tsongas has been a leader in the fight against Clinch River.

He has questioned the plan to build a reactor that would produce large quantities of weapons-grade plutonium, posing serious hazards of nuclear proliferation.

When originally approved by the Congress in 1970, Clinch River offered the prospect of producing cheap energy from a plentiful form of uranium not usable in conventional nuclear power plants.

But a twofold increase in proven uranium reserves and a falling demand for electricity in the United States have further weakened the case for Clinch River.

In November 1981 Senator Tsongas led the opposition to Clinch River on the Senate floor with an amendment that would have mandated a 50 percent industry share in the cost before the project could proceed.



Members of Congress rally on Capitol steps last July in support of the Equal Rights Amendment.

State Enlisting In SBA Program

Massachusetts ranks third among the states in the number of economic development corporations approved for a Federal program to help finance the expansion of small business.

In all, 18 such Massachusetts corporations have qualified for the "503 program," so named because it is authorized under Section 503 of the Small Business Development Act. Only two states, California and Illinois, lead Massachusetts in the number of corporations certified for the 503 program; New York and Massachusetts are tied for third, each with 18 certifications.

Senator Tsongas has taken a keen interest in the 503 program. As a member of the Senate Small Business Committee, he played a part in creating the program two years ago.

He and his economic development staff have cultivated and assisted Massachusetts applicants for 503 certification.

The 18 corporations approved by the Small Business Administration (SBA) for the 503 program include one statewide, the Massachusetts Certified Development Corp., and 17 others in cities across the state.

Under the 503 procedure, certified corporations assist small businesses to invest in new plant and equipment by coordinating the financing and obtaining SBA loan guarantees. An important safeguard requires a minimum private investment of half the cost of a project.

During the first year, the program produced \$6.5 million in loans to Massachusetts small businesses. The figure is expected to double this year.

Tsongas Urges Broad Jobs Bill

In the post-election session of Congress, Senator Tsongas joined with other lawmakers to push for a major job-creating bill that would have provided a range of benefits for Massachusetts from worker retraining to road repair.

But the \$5.3 billion Democratic jobs package designed to relieve the nation's soaring unemployment lost in the Senate.

A more limited Administration bill that passed the Congress also had Senator Tsongas' support. It will finance repair and improvements in United States highway and mass transit systems through a nickel-a-gallon increase in the Federal gasoline tax.

But the Administration bill and the broad-based Democratic jobs proposal differed significantly. The latter would have been a particular boon to older urban areas, such as those in Massachusetts.

In Senator Tsongas' view the focus of Federal aid ought to be on the problems of aging cities, where unemployment is highest, the tax base is most strained and the physical plant is in greatest disrepair.

In Boston, for example, Federal funds that Congress failed to authorize could have financed a new plant to handle the raw sewage that is now discharged into Boston Harbor and the Charles River. Other funds could have helped the city build a waste water system to replace dilapidated facilities that date from the 19th Century.

Bill Aims at Irish Bullets

Alarmed at the death and injury caused by plastic bullets in Northern Ireland, Senator Tsongas is cosponsoring a Senate resolution calling on Great Britain to ban their use.

Plastic bullets were introduced into Northern Ireland as a humane means of law enforcement. But they have been a failure, according to a congressional delegation that visited Dublin, Belfast and Derry last spring.

In urging a ban, Senator Tsongas said, "The continued use of plastic bullets against a civilian population is an affront to what society accepts as a humane method."

He noted that the British government has refrained from using plastic bullets to control riots in English cities, adding that "it then seems obvious they are not acceptable" in Northern Ireland either.

In his statements on Northern Ireland, he has advocated a



Photo by John Rosa

Student explains computer course to Senator Tsongas during his visit last fall to Boston's Humphrey Center.

High Tech Plan Is Unveiled

Senator Tsongas has authored two innovative bills to help the United States contend with sharp international competition in the high-technology industry.

One bill, the High Technology Morrill Act, would upgrade scientific education by forging a new partnership among government, industry and educational institutions.

The second, the Economically Strategic Industrial Research and Development Act, would bolster research and development in targeted areas where economic prospects are brightest.

The legislation is part of Senator Tsongas' continuing initiative in defense of the high-technology industry, an increasingly vital sector of the Massachusetts economy.

Under the first proposal, revenue from the sale of Federal oil and natural gas resources would

finance up to 50 percent of the cost of programs to assure enough high-tech manpower in the United States.

Matching money would come from industry and state governments, thus guaranteeing broad support before expenditure of any Federal funds.

The High Technology Morrill Act is based on a concept outlined in "Global Stakes," a book published last year by Ray Stata, president of Analog Devices in Westwood, and two high-tech consultants, James W. Botkin and Dan Dimancescu.

The bill is named for the Morrill Act of 1862, which established land-grant colleges across the country dedicated to research and education to boost American agriculture.

The latter-day Morrill Act is intended especially to improve math, science and engineering programs in schools and universities and to retrain engineers or other high-tech workers with outmoded skills. The measure, for example, could ease the shortage of math and science teachers in this country.

The other high-tech bill introduced in the Senate recently by Senator Tsongas is a response to the government targeted and subsidized research and development underway in Japan, France and other nations.

The legislation would authorize an independent panel of businessmen and academic experts to identify economically promising technologies that face the most intense competition because of government sponsored research and development abroad.

For any promising technology, whether it be robotics, superconductors or some other, the panel would devise a blueprint for maximizing United States competitiveness.

The blueprint would specify, for example, the best mix of industry and government resources for successful development of the technology.

Tsongas Assists Soviet Jews Seeking to Emigrate

Senator Tsongas has intensified his efforts on behalf of two imprisoned Jews seeking to emigrate from the Soviet Union.

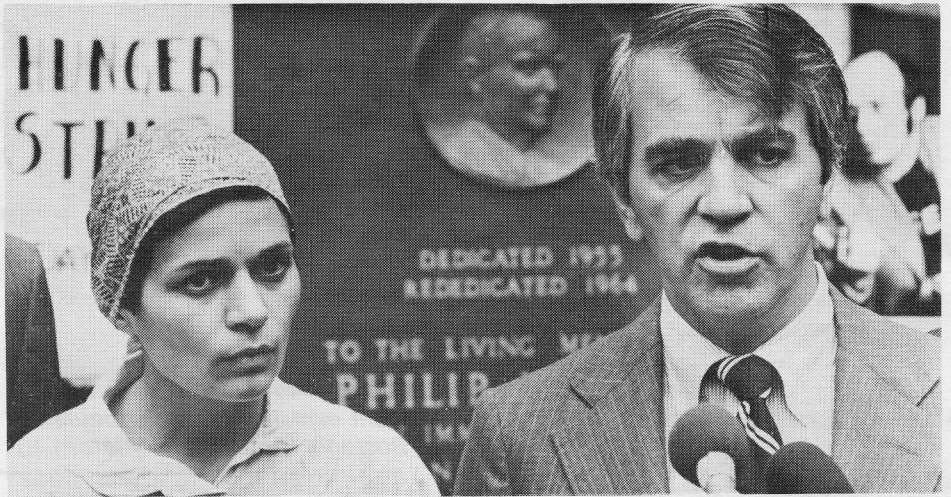
They are Dr. Alexander Paritsky, a scientist who is being held in a Soviet labor camp, and Anatoly Shcharansky, a mathematician who has been in prison since 1977 and is reportedly in failing health.

Senator Tsongas has often been outspoken in deploring human rights abuses in the Soviet Union and other nations, and he has taken a particular interest in the cases of Paritsky and Shcharansky.

In recent months, as it has become apparent that Soviet authorities have further restricted Jewish emigration and have escalated the persecution of Jews wanting to leave the country, he has intervened more actively to assist Paritsky and Shcharansky.

Acting under a power of attorney granted by Paritsky's brother, he petitioned Soviet officials in December asking for a review of Paritsky's case.

Paritsky, 44, had been a leader of the Jewish community



Standing across the street from Soviet Embassy, Senator Tsongas and Avital Shcharansky appeal for release of her husband, Anatoly, from prison.

in Kharkov before he applied in 1976 for permission to emigrate with his wife, Polina, and two daughters.

A congressional resolution, introduced in the Senate in 1981 by Senator Tsongas, called for United States pressure on the Soviets to grant Paritsky and his family their right to emigrate, as provided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Helsinki Accords.

In October Senator Tsongas held a press conference across the street from the Soviet Embassy in Washington to dramatize his concern about Shcharansky. He was accompanied by Shcharansky's wife, Avital.

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Boston's Bayside Mall into the largest apparel exhibition and trade center of New England; and a \$20 million headquarters for the Bank of New England in Malden.

Senator Tsongas has consistently backed urban development legislation. In the Senate he has steadfastly opposed the Administration's attempts to gut the UDAG and IDB programs.

To foster urban development, Senator Tsongas' Massachusetts staff works with municipal officials, neighborhood leaders, the business and banking communities and state and Federal officials on a variety of projects across the state.

One of them is the development of Boston's Southwest Corridor, which stretches from Jamaica Plain to the South End. Already under construction in the area is a \$1 billion extension of the MBTA mass transit system.

Plans for the Southwest Corridor also call for significant industrial expansion, housing and business development and the possible relocation of the Roxbury Community College.

Staff Serving You

If Massachusetts residents run into red tape dealing with a Federal agency, whether it be the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Department of Health and Human Services, a branch of the military or any other, they are invited to seek information and help from Senator Tsongas' Boston staff. Telephone 617-223-1890 or write: Office of Senator Paul E. Tsongas, Room 2003F, John F. Kennedy Building, Boston, Ma. 02203.

Tax Assistance -- The Federal government offers numerous publications to help taxpayers prepare income tax returns. Among the best: "Your Federal Income Tax," an exceptionally helpful, 168-page guide for filing individual returns; and "Tax Guide for Small Business," which explains tax regulations covering sole proprietors, partners, partnerships and corporations. The publications are available free of charge from the Boston address above, limit one per constituent as long as supplies last.

Further, the Internal Revenue Service sponsors direct assistance to taxpayers through its Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). Any taxpayer desiring help, especially those who file short forms and qualify for the earned income credit, may visit one of the posts manned by VITA volunteers. For information about the VITA location nearest you, call or write Senator Tsongas' Boston office as detailed above.

United States Senate

OFFICE OF SENATOR TSONGAS
394 RUSSELL BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Paul E. Tsongas
U.S.

BLK. RT.

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