

House agrees to extend Voting Rights Act

By MIKE SHANAHAN
 Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a rare congressional victory for liberal Democrats and civil rights leaders, the House gave overwhelming approval last night to an indefinite extension of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

The 389-24 vote sent the extension to the Republican-controlled Senate where a much tougher fight is expected on legislation described

by supporters as the most successful civil rights law ever enacted.

Every one in a series of efforts by House Republicans and some southern Democrats to loosen the federal hold over enforcement of voter discrimination law was easily rejected by the Democratic majority of the House.

Many of those leading the fight for extension were black and Hispanic House members who said that without the law they would have not been elected to Congress.

As the frequently bitter, nine-hour debate wound toward a close, Rep. Thomas F. Hartnett, R-S.C., complained that as a southern politician, the voting rights bill "keeps the heel of the federal government on my neck."

But supporters of the toughly drafted renewal of the act successfully argued that it has worked well in making state legislators and county officials think twice before they changed voting districts or rules in ways that would discourage blacks or other minorities from voting.

Rep. Peter Rodino, D-N.J., chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, said since the landmark voting rights statute was enacted 16 years ago, "registration and voting by black and

Hispanic citizens who had been deliberately denied their constitutional rights has risen dramatically."

But while there has been major progress in voting rights, he said, there are also many places where local officials and state legislators continue to find ways to dilute the voting power of blacks and other minorities.

Arguing for the more stringent renewal of the law, Rodino said, ploys to dilute minority voter power are "limited only by the imagination." In extending the legislation, the House established machinery under which individual counties, cities or states can "bail out" or escape from the so-called "preclearance" provisions of the act.

All of parts of 22 states, many of them in the South, are now required to come to the Justice Department every time they change a voting rule or law. Beginning in 1984, the bail-out provision would allow them to ask the U.S. District Court in Washington to free them from the preclearance provision if they can demonstrate that they no longer discriminate against blacks and other minorities.

That opponents of a tough extension measure

would fail became clear following two votes early in the debate, which was reminiscent of the civil rights battles of the 1960s when the late Lyndon B. Johnson was president.

The House first rejected 277-132 an amendment that would have empowered local U.S. district judges to declare states and counties exempt from federal supervision. Instead the U.S. District Court in Washington would retain jurisdiction.

Then, a proposal sponsored by Rep. Carroll Campbell, R-S.C., which would have made it easier for states to bail out or escape continued monitoring by the Justice Department, was beaten 313-95.

Republicans and conservative Democrats opened a series of efforts to sharply revise a Voting Rights extension bill approved 23-1 by the House Judiciary Committee.

Civil rights leaders and liberal Democrats said the revisions would sharply weaken the legislation and take the federal heat off some local and state politicians wary of growing minority political power.

Testimony before a House Judiciary subcommittee showed there have been broad

gains in numbers of black and other minority voters since the original bill was signed into law by President Johnson at the height of the civil rights movement.

But dozens of local civil rights workers and minority public officials also portrayed a broad pattern of voter discrimination in many jurisdictions.

Discriminatory practices included making it difficult for blacks to register to vote and redistricting plans which dilute the voting power of black populations in local or state jurisdictions.

At issue in the Congress is a so-called preclearance provision under which all of nine states, mainly in the South, and parts of 13 others are required to come to the Justice Department whenever they make any changes in local voting laws or rules.

Beginning in 1984, individual counties and states would be able to escape the pre-clearance requirement if can show that:

Over the last decade, they used no "test or device" to deprive minority members of the right to vote, and that all discriminatory practices have been eliminated.

Correction

A task force to study and propose solutions to the tax problems of graduate students does not exist, contrary to a story in yesterday's issue of The Daily Collegian.

The task force was proposed last week but is still in the developing stage, said Phill Gross, president of the Graduate Student Association.

The Collegian will print a further clarification when all concerned sources can be contacted for statements.

Physician stresses importance of health care

By BRIAN E. BOWERS
 Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Americans should orient themselves more toward "health care" than "disease care" as they are now doing, said Dr. G. William Hettler III, director of health services at the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point.

Medical expenditures nationwide are estimated to be about \$210 billion and are estimated to reach about \$1 trillion by the year 2000. Of this, 96 percent is for disease care, he said. Only 4 percent of the expenses are for health care, like stress management clinics and exercise classes.

Hettler, developer of the "Lifestyle Assessment Questionnaire" which is used to measure risk factors and to motivate self-improvement, spoke on the "Wellness Revolution" during the keynote address for Health Expo '81 and in an interview after the speech last night.

"Wellness tries to prevent illness, not deal with symptoms," Hettler said. Disease care is an after the fact treatment, whereas health care tries to prevent disease.

"There are a number of physicians who are upset

with the term 'wellness,'" he said. "They like illness alright, but not wellness."

The effectiveness of doctors and hospitals reached its peak around 1950. After that, most infectious diseases were of little worry, Hettler said. People themselves have taken the initiative to make themselves more healthy; therefore, there has been an upward trend in health.

"People have to be involved on their own," he said. "Our society expects doctors and nurses to help all the time. The people expect way too much, when they can only help about 10 percent of the time."

The other 90 percent of the help, Hettler said, must come from the individual in the form of lifestyle management.

"Almost all forms of premature death are related to lifestyle," he said. "Many of the cultural norms in our society are pushing us toward that premature death."

Some of the major contributors to premature death are cigarette smoking, stress, watching too much television, drinking too much alcohol and incorrect eating habits, Hettler said.

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G. William Hettler

Student S.S. benefits cut by 25 percent next year

By JOHN SCHLANDER
 Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Students eligible for Social Security checks as of August 1981 will have their benefits cut by 25 percent next year, Charles Moran, State College Social Security Administration manager said.

For these students, benefits will be reduced by 25 percent each year, starting with the September 1982 check, until they are completely phased out, Moran said. Also, starting in 1982, no benefits will be paid for May, June, July and August.

Because of financial problems with Social Security, Congress legislated a plan this summer to curtail, then to phase out, Social Security benefits for students aged 18 to 22, Moran said.

University Financial Aid Director John F. Brugel said: "The law states — it's not part of that student assistance law, but another section of the (Congress's) Omnibus Reconciliation — that by 1985, it will be phased out.

"Not only is it going to be phased out, but students currently in the program will see reductions," he

said. College and other post-secondary students who become eligible for benefits in the 1981-82 school year may end up receiving the benefits for as short a time as one month, Moran said.

No benefits will be paid to this group of students after July 1982, he said. So a student who becomes eligible shortly before this deadline may only receive one month's benefits.

The benefits are paid in the form of monthly checks to children of deceased, disabled or retired workers covered by Social Security, and comprise an estimated 2.2 percent of aid received by University students, according to the University's Office of Financial Aid.

Moran said that before this law went into effect, students were eligible for funds until age 22 but after the phase-out is completed in 1985, the maximum age for eligibility will be 19.

Beginning August 1982, elementary and secondary school students can receive benefits as under the old law.

Financial aid programs may get 'blocked'

By JOHN SCHLANDER
 Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Congress is considering a plan to consolidate the three campus-based financial aid programs into one block grant to individual colleges or universities, University Financial Aid Director John F. Brugel said.

However, Brugel said he didn't see how lumping the programs together into the block grant would benefit higher education.

"Right now, they are discreet programs. They are three separate entities with particular histories and supporters — and with a particular appropriations level," Brugel said.

He said he is against the plan because it would make it too easy for the federal government to cut the programs further.

Under the plan, the federal government would allocate money to the University in one sum for the Supplementary Educational Opportunity Grant, National Direct Student Loan and the College Work Study programs.

Currently, federal funds for the three programs are allocated separately.

"Work Study, which has long been a favorite of Congress, gets lumped in with the National Direct Student Loan which has been a little less popular because of student default and that type of issue," Brugel said.

"It muddies it up," he said. "It makes it too easy for us (the University) to get hurt."

"I don't know of a single spokesman in higher education who is saying that the block grant approach is the way to go — that it will better serve

students or better serve higher education. "The only (entity) it will better serve is the federal government because it may make it easier to shave the programs."

Other possible cutbacks in student aid programs are difficult to project, Brugel said.

"What we've been reading about with the fiscal year '82 cuts is from the Omnibus Reconciliation, which was passed (by Congress) Aug. 13," he said. "Since then, you've been reading about additional shavings or cuts."

"But that's merely in the discussion stage of the House and Senate. There's been no agreement or formal action on that."

Additions or cuts in funds to programs may be made at anytime during the year, Brugel said.

weather

Variable cloudiness, breezy and warm today with occasional showers and thundershowers. High temperatures will be near 75 degrees. Evening showers and thunderstorms will give way to partly cloudy skies late tonight.

Haig attempts to save AWACS deal with Saudis

By JIM ADAMS
 Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a furious attempt to salvage an \$8.5 billion arms deal to Saudi Arabia, Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. charged opponents with "illusions . . . irresponsible in the extreme" yesterday while President Reagan unveiled support from former defense and foreign policy officials.

Haig, in testimony to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, personally assailed Democrat John Glenn of Ohio for what he termed the "imaginary" claim that a compromise could be worked out calling for joint U.S.-Saudi manning of the five AWACS radar planes at the heart of the sale.

The president, meanwhile, assembled 13 defense and foreign-policy officials from Washington's past for a White House display of bipartisan support. The officials included former Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, who served presidents Nixon and Ford, and Zbigniew Brzezinski, the national security adviser to President Carter.

Reagan personally read a joint statement by his guests, signed by three others who could not be there, which declared that "the sale of AWACS and other air defense equipment to Saudi Arabia would make a substantial contribution to the nation security interests of the United States in a vital part of the world."

"The rejection of this sale would damage the ability of the United States to conduct a credible and effective foreign policy, not only in the Middle East.

"Our enemies and the enemies of peace have not been idle," Haig said. He said turmoil in Iran, a new alliance among Libya, Ethiopia and South Yemen, and the fragile ceasefire in Lebanon all are threats to world peace.

"Our margin for error and delay is dangerously thin," he said. "This is not a time to impose severe strain on our relations with one of our closest friends in the region."

"It seems to me that some who oppose this sale may be in danger of comforting themselves with two dangerous illusions," Haig said. "It would be irresponsible in the extreme to succumb to illusions about the real alternatives facing us."

Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker Jr. of Tennessee said the Senate as well as the House is now lined up to veto the sale but said "I still have some hope" for saving it.

"It will take a maximum effort and special dedication to work it out," Baker said. The sale includes the five AWACS planes, plus missiles and fuel pods to increase the range and firepower of 62 Saud F-15 jet fighters.

Asked if Reagan has considered cancelling the AWACS part of the sale to save the F-15 weaponry part of the deal, Baker said "I see no indication of that."

Over the weekend, the Saudis rejected any joint manning of the craft, and Reagan himself said that "We have no intention of violating their (the Saudis') sovereignty . . . We have no intention of sharing ownership. We and



President Reagan, surrounded by former administrators and leading policy makers who all support the sale of the AWACS plane to Saudi Arabia, makes a

statement to reporters outside the White House. Supporters include Henry Kissinger (left of Reagan) and Harold Brown, former defense secretary (right).

they will, yes, share the intelligence obtained by those AWACS."

Reagan was asked if negotiations with the Saudis were continuing, and he replied, "No, the negotiations with Congress will continue."

"I don't think we've really gone to bat yet," he said. But the president also said "I'm always worried until I can count the votes."

Senate staff aides who declined to be identified said last night some senators were considering a non-binding "sense of the Senate" resolution that would call on the president to "guarantee"

that "all legal requirements" were met before delivery of the AWACS planes. It was not clear what the phrase "all legal requirements" meant, beyond such standard provisions for arms sales abroad that the weapons would be used only for defense, and the aides declined to elaborate.

Early in the evening, Haig met with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who told reporters the AWACS issue did not come up.

Before Haig's appearance, the Senate committee got conflicting testimony from a former Carter administration

official and a leader of the pro-Israel lobby on whether veto of the sale would hurt U.S.-Arab relations.

Harold H. Saunders, who was Carter's assistant secretary of state for Mideast affairs, said congressional rejection would "further confirmation in Arab eyes that the United States has made Israel its chosen instrument in the Middle East and is not prepared to treat key Arab states as full partners."

But Thomas A. Dine, executive director of the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee, said the Saudis have already shown they do not want to

cooperate with the United States militarily or for a Middle East peace.

Dine said the sale "would reward the Saudis for being the principal obstacle to an American presence in the Gulf and for being the principal obstacle to peace in the Middle East."

Deputy White House press secretary Larry Speakes said Reagan felt "we are making some progress in some key areas with some key members of Congress."

"We do see some bright spots," he said.