

and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles:

On June 8, 1954:

H. R. 683. An act for the relief of George P. Smyrnotis;

H. R. 2512. An act to amend the act entitled "An act to provide for the purchase of public lands for home and other sites," approved June 1, 1938 (52 Stat. 609), as amended;

H. R. 2974. An act to extend the time for enrollment of the Indians of California, and for other purposes;

H. R. 3704. An act to provide for the incorporation, regulation, merger, consolidation, and dissolution of certain business corporations in the District of Columbia;

H. R. 3876. An act for the relief of Martha Schnauffer Shockley;

H. R. 7061. An act to prescribe and regulate the procedure for adoption in the District of Columbia; and

H. R. 7062. An act to amend the act of April 22, 1944, which regulates the placement of children in family homes in the District of Columbia.

On June 10, 1954:

H. R. 897. An act for the relief of Abul K. Barik;

H. R. 1144. An act for the relief of Martha Farah;

H. R. 1348. An act for the relief of Alwine Reichenbauch;

H. R. 1509. An act for the relief of Sahag Vartanian;

H. R. 3145. An act for the relief of Pravo-mil Vaclav Maly and Jarmila Maly;

H. R. 5210. An act for the relief of Paul D. Banning, chief disbursing officer, and others; and

H. J. Res. 508. Joint resolution to extend the time for the erection of a memorial to the memory of Mohandas K. Gandhi.

On June 11, 1954:

H. R. 675. An act for the relief of Mrs. Romola Nijinsky and Paul Bohus-Villagosi;

H. R. 689. An act for the relief of Mrs. Keiko Inouye;

H. R. 737. An act for the relief of Harold Donaghy Bishop;

H. R. 807. An act for the relief of Sister Isabel (Purification Montemayor Maceo);

H. R. 887. An act for the relief of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Levandoski;

H. R. 1465. An act for the relief of Helga Rossmann and her child;

H. R. 1657. An act for the relief of Antonio Messina;

H. R. 1699. An act for the relief of Rev. Roger Knutsen;

H. R. 1905. An act for the relief of Montgomery of San Francisco, Inc.;

H. R. 3006. An act for the relief of Ruth Irene Ledermann;

H. R. 5616. An act for the relief of Leon H. Callaway and others;

H. R. 5933. An act for the relief of Herschel D. Reagan; and

H. R. 7554. An act to provide for compensation of certain employees on days when departments or establishments of the Government are closed by administrative order.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Carrell, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agrees to the amendment of the House to a bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 3050. An act to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended.

CIVIL DEFENSE NEED

Mr. EDMONDSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask for unanimous consent to extend my remarks at this point in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. EDMONDSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish that every Member of Congress had been at my side at 10 this morning, when the sirens sounded for the Washington area's A-raid drill in the schools.

I was in one of the fine schools of Maryland, where two of my boys are enrolled, when the drill began. At the principal's request, I walked the halls of the school to inspect the safety measures being taken.

In room after room, little children from 6 to 12 were on their knees, huddled under their classroom desks, their hands clasped about their heads for protection.

For 10 minutes, until the all-clear, they stayed in this position.

It was a saddening and also a chilling sight to watch.

The pitiful inadequacy of those tiny desks as protection for our children is symbolic to me of the deplorable and inexcusable lag of our preparedness program on the home front.

We are not adequately prepared, and all of us in the Government must share the awful responsibility for our unpreparedness.

In the name of God, Mr. Speaker, must we wait until A-bombs and H-bombs begin to fall, before providing adequate and safe emergency shelters for our children? It is shocking evidence of national complacency in a time of great world peril, that construction is not already completed in every target city of our Nation.

The time to act on this national need is not next week, or tomorrow, but today.

Tomorrow may be too late.

MRS. JOSETTE L. ST. MARIE—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 432)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following veto message from the President of the United States:

To the House of Representatives:

I am returning herewith without my approval, H. R. 6452, 83d Congress, "An act for the relief of Mrs. Josette L. St. Marie."

The bill proposes that Frank P. St. Marie's death in service on March 9, 1943, shall be held and considered to have been in line of duty.

Private St. Marie, then on active service in the United States Army, committed suicide on March 9, 1943, while in confinement because of excessive use of alcoholic beverages. The military department determined that his death was in line of duty, while mentally unsound, and not the result of his own misconduct. The claim of Mrs. Josette L. St. Marie for death compensation as dependent mother was denied by the Veterans' Administration on the ground that death was due to the soldier's own misconduct.

It appears that favorable action by the committees which considered H. R.

6452 was based upon disagreement with the determination of the Veterans' Administration and a belief that the military department's determination is entitled to greater weight and should be controlling. The basic issue in this case involves the adjudicative function of evaluation of evidence to determine whether the soldier's death was in line of duty and not due to his own misconduct for purposes of death compensation. The statutory duty of making such determinations is the sole responsibility of the Veterans' Administration. I am informed that the conclusion of the Veterans' Administration in the case is fully substantiated by the evidence of record, and in my judgment it is unwise to adjudicate individual cases by private legislation.

To prefer this case for special treatment to the exclusion of other similar cases would be unwarranted and discriminatory. In this regard, I am advised that during the past 6 years approximately 1,000 claims for service-connected death compensation in World War II cases alone have been denied on the ground that the veteran's death was due to his own willful misconduct. Further, it is understood that there are no dependents of World War II veterans on the death compensation rolls as a consequence of enactment of a private law. Approval of H. R. 6452 could result in the placing of such a dependent on the mentioned rolls, and possibly retroactively for almost a 9-year period. Thus, its approval would constitute a far-reaching precedent which I cannot justify.

I am opposed to setting aside the principle and rules of administration prescribed in the public laws governing veterans' benefit programs. Uniformity and equality of treatment to all who are similarly situated must be the steadfast rule if the Federal programs for veterans and their dependents are to be operated successfully. Approval of H. R. 6452 would not be in keeping with these principles.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

THE WHITE HOUSE, June 14, 1954.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The objections of the President will be spread at large upon the Journal, and without objection the bill and message will be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered printed.

There was no objection.

MRS. ROSE KACZMARCZYK—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 431)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following veto message from the President of the United States:

To the House of Representatives:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, H. R. 898, 83d Congress, "An act for the relief of Mrs. Rose Kaczmarczyk."

The bill would authorize and direct the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to Mrs. Rose Kaczmarczyk the sum of