

a feasibility study and to accept a gift from the United States Capitol Historical Society;

H.J. Res. 865. Joint resolution authorizing the President to proclaim March 29, 1974, as "Vietnam Veterans Day";

H.R. 1316. An act for the relief of Claude V. Alcorn and 21 others;

H.R. 1920. An act to designate the portion of the project for flood control protection on Chartlers Creek that is within Allegheny County, Pa., as the "James G. Fulton Flood Protection Project";

H.R. 2303. An act to continue mandatory price support for tung nuts only through the 1976 crop;

H.R. 4738. An act to provide for the striking of medals in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the statehood of Colorado;

H.R. 5780. An act to provide for the striking of medals commemorating the International Exposition on Environment at Spokane, Wash., in 1974;

H.R. 5874. An act to establish a Federal Financing Bank, to provide for coordinated and more efficient financing of Federal and federally assisted borrowings from the public, and for other purposes;

H.R. 6758. An act to amend chapter 33 of title 28 of the District of Columbia Code relating to usury, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 10806. An act to amend the District of Columbia Minimum Wage Act so as to enable airline employees to exchange days at regular rates of compensation, and for other purposes.

On December 31, 1973:

H.R. 8449. An act to expand the national flood insurance program by substantially increasing limits of coverage and total amount of insurance authorized to be outstanding and by requiring known flood-prone communities to participate in the program, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 11333. An act to provide a 7-percent increase in social security benefits beginning with March 1974 and an additional 4-percent increase beginning with June 1974, to provide increases in supplemental security income benefits, and for other purposes.

On January 2, 1974:

H.R. 3733. An act to authorize the American Battle Monuments Commission to assume control of overseas war memorials erected by private persons and non-Federal and foreign agencies and to demolish such war memorials in certain instances;

H.R. 8529. An act to implement the shrimp fishing agreement with Brazil, and for other purposes;

H.R. 9142. An act to authorize and direct the maintenance of adequate and efficient rail services in the Midwest and Northeast region of the United States, and for other purposes;

H.R. 11238. An act to amend the act of March 16, 1926 (relating to the Board of Public Welfare in the District of Columbia), to provide for an improved system of adoption of children in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes;

H.R. 11372. An act to conserve energy on the Nation's highways;

H.R. 11575. An act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 11771. An act making appropriations for foreign assistance and related programs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974, and for other purposes.

On January 3, 1974:

H.R. 11576. An act making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974, and for other purposes.

#### HOUSE BILL DISAPPROVED AFTER SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT—URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ACT

The President announced his disapproval of the following bill with a memorandum of disapproval as follows:

I regret that I cannot approve H.R. 10511, a bill to amend the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964. Unfortunately, this bill has evolved so as to become an anti-transit measure.

In its favor is the fact that H.R. 10511 would facilitate the use of Urban Mass Transportation monies for the purchase of buses by allowing such equipment to be used for charter services. Unfortunately, however, the bill would leave in effect the prohibition against using buses purchased with Federal-Aid Highway funds in charter activities. By creating different standards for the purchase of buses from the two programs, the bill would discourage the use of highway funds for mass transit purposes. It would thus undermine one of the central achievements of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, the provision giving greater flexibility to States and communities in meeting their transportation problems. This we cannot afford.

I strongly supported legislation which applied uniformly to both the Federal-Aid Highway program and the Urban Mass Transportation program. The Senate version of the bill provided flexibility, encouraging bus purchases from both of these funding sources. It is essential that our communities' mass transit companies can use their buses to produce badly needed charter revenues, and I will continue to press for this balanced flexibility.

As we face gasoline shortages and an increasing demand for public transportation, we should do all we can to afford local officials genuine flexibility to use Federal-Aid Highway funds to improve mass transit if they so desire. I am withholding my signature from H.R. 10511 because this legislation would work directly against that objective.

I urge the Congress to act early in the next session to relax the charter prohibition uniformly with respect to both the Federal-Aid Highway program and the Urban Mass Transportation program. If this action is taken promptly, our mass transit systems need not suffer any adverse consequences.

RICHARD NIXON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, January 3, 1974.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. STAGGERS:

H.R. 12150. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act so as to expand the authority of the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases in order to advance a national attack on arthritis; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

By Mr. GUNTER (for himself, Mr. LEHMAN, Mr. ROE, and Mr. MATSUNAGA):

H. Res. 762. Resolution creating a select committee to conduct an investigation and study of the role of the oil and gas industry in contributing to the current energy crisis; to the Committee on Rules.

## SENATE—Saturday, December 22, 1973

The Senate met at 1 p.m. and was called to order by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. METCALF).

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Edward L. R. Elson, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Our Father God, who has illumined all history by the shining light of Bethlehem, we thank Thee for its message moving upon our human hearts, that makes us all children again, believing in the herald angels, singing with the watching shepherds, worshipping with the ancient kings.

For such a time as this may its message of "peace on earth, good will toward men" penetrate all hearts and guide all nations, that sin may be forgiven and suffering relieved by the worldwide reign

of the Spirit incarnate in the Child of Bethlehem.

When our worship and festivities are over, send us all, like the shepherds and sages of old, back to the daily round different men and women to make different homes and different cities and different nations because we acknowledge the Lord of Life not on one day only but on all days. So let Thy light spread and Thy will be done, and the theme of the angels be the aim of all men.

Through Him who is born to be King of all life. Amen.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Hackney, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House had passed a bill (H.R. 7684) for the

relief of Nicola Lomuscio, in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate.

The message also announced that the House had agreed to a concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 412) providing for the sine die adjournment of the 1st session of the 93d Congress, in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker had affixed his signature to the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 1920. An act to designate the portion of the project for flood control protection on Chartlers Creek that is within Allegheny County, Pa., as the "James G. Fulton flood protection project";

H.R. 3733. An act to authorize the American Battle Monuments Commission to assume control of overseas war memorials