

H. R. 3828. An act for the relief of Antonio Bruno;

H. R. 4100. An act for the relief of Mrs. Lau Hong Shee;

H. R. 4101. An act for the relief of Hidenori U'tada;

H. R. 4328. An act for the relief of Mrs. Edith D. Williamson;

H. R. 4375. An act for the relief of Julia S. Criswell;

H. R. 4440. An act for the relief of Hilde Kretz Sforza;

H. R. 5118. An act for the relief of Louise Kaden and Elke Beate Kaden; and

H. R. 5470. An act for the relief of Salvatore Mario Veitri.

On August 14, 1953:

H. R. 307. An act to revive and reenact the act entitled "An act authorizing the Ogdensburg Bridge Authority, its successors and assigns, to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge across the St. Lawrence River at or near the city of Ogdensburg, N. Y.";

H. R. 975. An act for the relief of Dr. Dudley A. Reekie;

H. R. 1127. An act to validate a conveyance of certain lands by the Central Pacific Railway Co., and its lessee, Southern Pacific Co., to the Union Ice Co. and Edward Barbera;

H. R. 1219. An act authorizing the Hidalgo Bridge Co., its heirs, legal representatives and assigns, to construct, maintain, and operate a railroad toll bridge across the Rio Grande, at or near Hidalgo, Tex.;

H. R. 1245. An act to provide for the conveyance of a tract of land in Dane County, Wis., to the Wisconsin State Armory Board;

H. R. 2019. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to sell certain land to Ted B. Landoe and Roderic S. Carpenter;

H. R. 2162. An act for the relief of Cyril Claude Andersen, Patricia Andersen Hill, and Thelma Andersen McNeill.

H. R. 3046. An act for the relief of William Urban Maloney;

H. R. 3630. An act for the relief of Mrs. Nathalie Illine;

H. R. 4151. An act to provide wage credits under title II of the Social Security Act for military service before July 1, 1955, and to extend the time for filing application for lump-sum death payments under such title with respect to the death of certain individuals dying in the service who are reinterred;

H. R. 5486. An act for the relief of Irene Andrews;

H. R. 5662. An act to amend the act of June 30, 1944, so as to extend for 1 year the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents for certain public lands in Monroe County, Mich., held under color of title;

H. R. 5687. An act for the relief of George Michael Jabour;

H. R. 5951. An act for the relief of Eveline Brigitte Bartl (Eveline B. Hermann);

H. R. 6185. An act to amend the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 with respect to preference accorded in Federal employment to disabled veterans, and for other purposes;

H. R. 6252. An act to amend the charter of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America so as to limit membership on the National Council of Girl Scouts to citizens of the United States, to authorize meetings of the national council as provided in the constitution, and to authorize an annual report based upon the preceding fiscal year;

H. R. 6402. An act to provide for abatement of jeopardy assessments when jeopardy does not exist;

H. R. 6813. An act to authorize the utilization of a limited amount of storage space in Lake Texoma for the purpose of water supply for the city of Denison, Tex.; and

H. J. Res. 268. Joint resolution granting the consent of Congress to the negotiation of a compact relating to the establishment of a

bistate park and/or recreational area by the States of Kentucky and Virginia.

On August 15, 1953:

H. R. 1055. An act to eliminate certain discriminatory legislation against Indians in the United States;

H. R. 1063. An act to confer jurisdiction on the States of California, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oregon, and Wisconsin, with respect to criminal offenses and civil causes of action committed or arising on Indian reservations within such States, and for other purposes;

H. R. 2062. An act to permit the coordination of the Wisconsin retirement fund with the Federal old-age and survivors insurance system;

H. R. 2396. An act for the relief of Harry Clay Mauli, Jr.;

H. R. 3409. An act to terminate certain Federal restrictions upon Indians;

H. R. 4047. An act validating certain conveyances heretofore made by Central Pacific Railway Co., a corporation, and its lessee, Southern Pacific Co., a corporation, involving certain portions of right-of-way, in the county of Alameda, State of California, acquired by Central Pacific Railway Co. under the act of Congress approved July 1, 1862 (12 Stat. L. 489), as amended by the act of Congress approved July 2, 1864 (13 Stat. L. 356);

H. R. 4483. An act to provide compensation to the Shoshone and Arapahoe Tribes of Indians for certain lands of the Riverton reclamation project within the ceded portion of the Wind River Indian Reservation, and for other purposes;

H. R. 4508. An act to authorize the sale of certain lands to the State of Oklahoma;

H. R. 4980. An act to amend section 3250 (1) (5) of the Internal Revenue Code to provide that a person entitled to drawback with respect to certain nonbeverage products may elect to receive such drawback on a monthly instead of a quarterly basis;

H. R. 5603. An act to amend the Federal Reserve Act so as to authorize national banking associations to make loans on forest tracts;

H. R. 6281. An act to reimburse the Post Office Department for the transmission of official Government-mail matter;

H. R. 6426. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code to extend the time during which certain provisions relating to income and estate taxes shall apply, and for other purposes; and

H. R. 6441. An act to amend certain provisions of title XI of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, to facilitate private financing of new ship construction, and for other purposes.

DISAPPROVAL OF HOUSE BILLS AFTER SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

The message also announced that the President had on August 6, 1953, disapproved a bill of the House of the following title together with his reasons for such action:

TAX ON ADMISSIONS—H. R. 157

H. R. 157. I am withholding my approval of H. R. 157, entitled "To provide that the tax on admissions shall not apply to moving-picture admissions."

My reasons for taking this position are that we cannot afford the loss of revenue involved and that it is unfair to single out one industry for relief at this time.

In my message to the Congress on May 20, I said:

Tax receipts will apparently fall considerably short of our necessary expenditures

during the next fiscal year. In view of this fact, I have come to the conclusion that no reductions in tax rates should become effective during this calendar year.

In accordance with this policy, the Treasury Department advised the chairmen of the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance of its opposition to this bill.

Because of the need for revenue I recommended an extension of the excess-profits tax for 6 months and the extension has now been made. Tax relief for one industry now would be inconsistent with that action.

It is estimated that the repeal of the admissions tax on motion-picture performances, which has been on the books at the present rate since April 1, 1944, would result in a gross loss of revenue of \$200 million. After allowing for a resulting increase in corporation income taxes, the net loss is estimated to be between \$100 million and \$120 million a year.

It is not contended by the industry that the present scale of admission prices which reflects the 20-percent tax is responsible for the existing distress situation in the industry. Indeed, the industry apparently expects in many cases to maintain the present price to consumers even though the tax is repealed.

There is distress in large but not all segments of the industry. The basic causes of the industry's distress, however, arise from new forms of competition.

A strong case can also be made for tax relief in other industries which are subject to high excise taxes, including other forms of entertainment subject to the admission tax. If relief is to be given to motion-picture theaters at this time, it would not be fair to refuse relief to these other industries. If widespread relief were given, however, the loss in revenue would be very large.

As I said in my message of May 20:

The wide variety of existing excise rates makes little economic sense and leads to improper discrimination between industries and among consumers. Specific proposals for a modified system of excise taxation will be included in the recommendations for tax revision that will be submitted to the Congress next January.

The Treasury analysis has already progressed to the point where I can say that I will include a recommendation for a reduction in the admissions tax in my proposals for a modified system of excise taxation. Action could be taken by the Congress early in 1954 and relief could be given at that time.

It is for these reasons that I cannot give my approval to the repeal of the tax on admissions to motion-picture performances. The country cannot afford a loss of revenue at this time. Furthermore, it would not be fair and would be discriminatory to give relief under a single excise tax and then only to one of the industries subject to that tax.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER,

THE WHITE HOUSE, August 6, 1953.