

remainder of this week it shall be in order to consider conference reports at any time they are reported notwithstanding the provisions of clause 2, rule XXVIII.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

H. R. 3087, A BILL AUTHORIZING CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS TO TWO BUSINESS PROPERTIES IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 216)

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 return herewith, without my approval, H. R. 3087, to authorize the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia to permit certain improvements to two business properties situated in the District of Columbia.

The two properties involved, owned by private corporations, are occupied as gasoline filling stations, in a residential-use district. Under the zoning regulations promulgated pursuant to the act of March 1, 1920, as amended by the act of June 20, 1938, the two stations may be continued as such in the category of nonconforming uses because they were in existence prior to the enactment of the zoning statute. However, except under certain conditions, these nonconforming uses cannot be physically extended, enlarged, or improved. At present there are approximately 5,000 nonconforming uses in the District of Columbia. We should not single out two of these and provide benefits for them which cannot be enjoyed by any of the other many nonconforming uses.

In addition to its discriminatory nature, the bill would adversely alter the basis of comprehensive planning in the District. The city of Washington was planned with great care. However, before control of land use under a comprehensive plan was adopted in 1920, many uses grew up that did not harmonize with any orderly plan for the Nation's Capital. Although the Zoning Act permitted continuation of these nonconforming uses under uniform regulations, it was plainly intended to prevent changes which might perpetuate or magnify the adverse effects of these uses.

The bill would subvert both the purposes of the Zoning Act and the objectives of the comprehensive plan for the Nation's Capital by sanctioning the practice of "spot zoning." It constitutes an invitation for further exceptions which, if enacted into law, would frustrate comprehensive planning and make impossible the orderly development of the Federal City.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 29, 1953.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The objections of the President will be spread at large upon the Journal.

Mr. SIMPSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move that the bill and message be

referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia and ordered to be printed.

The motion was agreed to.

RESOLUTION TENDERING THANKS OF CONGRESS TO GEN. PEYTON C. MARCH, FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY

Mr. SHORT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 43 tendering the thanks of Congress to Gen. Peyton C. March, former Chief of Staff of the Army.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

Whereas Gen. Peyton C. March retired from the position of Chief of Staff of the United States Army on June 30, 1921, after a distinguished career; and

Whereas, despite his retired status, his interest in national defense has continued to be profound and continuing; and

Whereas he has displayed this interest by many constructive suggestions which have been of great value to the War Department and the Department of the Army: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the thanks of Congress are hereby tendered to Gen. Peyton C. March for his selfless and patriotic interest in the United States Army since his retirement, manifested so often by his helpful counsel to the War Department and the Department of the Army, thereby contributing greatly to the national security of the United States.

The Senate concurrent resolution was agreed to, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The proceedings whereby House Concurrent Resolution 170 was passed were vacated and that resolution was laid on the table.

PROVIDING ADMISSION TO ST. ELIZABETHS HOSPITAL OF CERTAIN CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES ADJUDGED INSANE IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the bill (H. R. 304) to provide for the admission to St. Elizabeths Hospital, in the District of Columbia, of certain citizens of the United States adjudged insane in foreign countries.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That, upon the application of the Secretary of State, the Federal Security Administrator is authorized to admit to St. Elizabeths Hospital, in the District of Columbia, for treatment, any citizen of the United States legally adjudged insane in a foreign country, or certified by appropriate authorities (as determined by the Administrator to be in need of care and treatment in a mental hospital, whose legal residence in a State, Territory, or the District of Columbia, it has been impossible to establish. Upon the ascertainment of the legal

residence of any person so transferred to the hospital, the superintendent of the hospital shall thereupon transfer such person to such place of residence, and the expenses attendant thereon shall be paid from the appropriation for the support of the hospital.

Sec. 2. Upon the request of any person admitted to St. Elizabeths Hospital under the first section of this act, or upon the request of any relative or friend, he shall have a hearing in the district court of the United States for the District of Columbia upon his mental condition and the right of the superintendent of St. Elizabeths Hospital to hold him for treatment.

Sec. 3. The act entitled "An act to provide for the admission to St. Elizabeths Hospital of insane persons belonging to the Foreign Service of the United States", approved October 29, 1951, is hereby repealed.

With the following committee amendments:

On page 1, line 4, strike out "Federal Security Administrator" and insert "Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare."

Page 1, line 9, strike out "Administrator" and insert "Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare."

Page 2, line 19, strike out "1951" and insert "1941."

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the bill (S. 1515) granting the consent of Congress to certain Western States and the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii to enter into a compact relating to higher education in the Western States and establishing the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the consent of Congress is hereby given to any five or more of the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming and the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii to enter into the following compact and agreement relating to higher education and creating the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.

The compact reads as follows:

ARTICLE I

Whereas the future of this Nation and of the Western States is dependent upon the quality of the education of its youth; and

Whereas many of the Western States individually do not have sufficient numbers of potential students to warrant the establishment and maintenance within their borders of adequate facilities in all of the essential fields of technical, professional, and graduate training, nor do all the States have the financial ability to furnish within their borders institutions capable of providing acceptable standards of training in all of the fields mentioned above; and

Whereas it is believed that the Western States, or groups of such States within the region, cooperatively can provide acceptable and efficient educational facilities to meet