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EXECUTIVE

LE/AG 5-1 ③

AG 5-1

SCOTT, BILL

WMCA (Radio)

7-26-67
ET-
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 26, 1967

FOR THE PRESIDENT'S
NIGHT READING

FROM Joe Califano *Califano*

Attachment *L*

RECEIVED
AUG 15 1967
CENTRAL FILES



Broadcast 10 times

July 23 - 24, 1967

PRESIDENT'S RAT CONTROL BILL

When the House of Representatives voted against President Johnson's proposed 40 million dollar war on rats in big-city slums, the President asked:

(Tape: "If we can spend literally millions to protect our cows from the screwworms, why can't we spend a little money to protect our children from the rats?"

There are probably no cases of congressmen being bitten by rats while sitting in the House of Representatives. And it is probably fair to say that the 207 who voted against the bill do not go to bed each night wondering if they will be awakened by screams, to find their youngsters bitten, mutilated and perhaps killed by rats.

Congress should give the kids in the slums a break. It should reconsider . . . and quickly approve the President's war on rats.

#

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RECEIVED
JOE CALIFANO, JR.

1967 JUL 26 PM 12 42



WALL OPINION

by Bill Scott, Vice-President
Straus Broadcasting Group

President's Rat Control Bill

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(PRESIDENT JOHNSON - TAPE:) "If we can spend literally millions to protect our cows from the screwworms, why can't we spend a little money to protect our children from the rats?"

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Congress should give the kids in the slums a break. It should reconsider, and quickly approve, the President's war on rats.

Broadcast on WALL AM/FM July 25-26, 1967. Time is made available for responsible opposing views.

RECEIVED
JOE CALIFANO, JR.

1967 JUL 26 PM 12 40

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EXECUTIVE
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REPUBLICANS LAUGH AS SLUM DWELLERS BATTLE RATS

To the vast majority of Republicans in the House of Representatives, rats in slums are a matter of great amusement.

Flushed with their victorious efforts against rent supplements to help poor people get decent housing and emboldened by the near success of their assault on the model cities program, Republicans, with high glee, turned their guns on an administration proposal to help communities fight rats in city slums.

President Johnson had asked for \$40 million for a two year program of matching grants to help cities fight rats.

Rep. Spark M. Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) pointed out the need for the bill in clear-cut terms.

Rats inflict an estimated \$900 million dollars' worth of property damage each year, and the damage to human beings cannot be estimated.

Last year, Rep. Matsunaga informed his colleagues, seven cities together reported 1,000 cases of ratbite. Only two days earlier an eight-month-old boy had been bitten to death by rats in Washington, D.C.

The proposed Federal grant assistance, "limited in time but comprehensive in scope," calls for \$40 million in matching grants to cities over a 2-year period—a good investment, said Matsunaga.

But President Johnson's efforts to banish rats from city slums was pounced upon by Republican wags as an opportunity to vie for "sick joke of the year" award.

Rep. Broyhill, R-Va. opening the contest by sneering that it would be a "rat smart thing to vote this down rat now." Iowa's Republican Congressman Gross entered the contest with a warning against creation of a "rat corps" presided over by a "high commissioner of rats."

When Rep. Latta of Ohio took up the GOP assault to deplore Federal control and spendthrift programs, Democrat Charles Joelson of New Jersey reminded Latta that he himself had urged Federal funds to control blackbirds, "making no mention of fiscal problems or local initiative."

Latta said that was different, and besides, blackbirds destroy some \$58 million in crops each year.

Joelson pointed out that rat damage



totaled almost \$1 billion a year.

When the vote was taken, to bring the measure to the floor 148 House Republicans turned their backs on the cities of America, just as many had done earlier in voting against the Administration's rent supplement and model cities programs.

The resolution was killed by a vote of 207 to 176, with 154 Democrats and only 22 Republicans voting for passage.

The laughter of the Rat Finks died quickly when Representative Kupferman, a Republican from Manhattan, rose to address his colleagues. "I am ashamed of the vote today," he said angrily. "I say this to those who voted 'aye' overwhelm-

ingly on the anti-riot bill yesterday, that seldom can one find such inconsistency in such a short period of time . . . We asserted yesterday Federal supremacy on a local problem to suppress violent dissent, but today we vote to invite violent dissent."

President Johnson lost no time in urging reconsideration of the bill, denouncing the vote as "a cruel blow to the children of America."

"We are spending Federal funds to protect our livestock from rodents and predatory animals," said the President. "The least we can do is give our children the same protection we give our livestock."



NOV 16 1967
CENTRAL FILES

The Democrat | 3

President Johnson Says:

'LET US GO ABOUT OUR WORK'



President Johnson and some of the leaders of his administration in Congress at one of their regular meetings in the White House where the progress of administration proposals is discussed.

Work to insure the safety of American citizens in the streets of our cities will continue in spite of blind, relentless Republican opposition.

This assurance was given the nation by President Lyndon B. Johnson in a message televised to the nation from the White House.

In the past three and half years, President Johnson recalled, "we have directed the greatest governmental effort in all of our American history" at the ancient enemies of ignorance, discrimination, slums, poverty, disease and a lack of jobs.

"The roll call of these laws reveal the depth of our concern," the President said. "The Model Cities Act, the Voters Right Act, the Civil Rights Act, the Rent Supplement Act, Medicare and Medicaid, the 24 educational bills, Head Start, the Job Corps, the Neighborhood Youth Corps, the Teachers Corps, manpower development and training and many, many more acts too numerous to mention.

"We will continue to press for laws which would protect our citizens from violence, like the Safe Streets and Crime Control Act now under consideration in the Congress and the Gun Control Act."

The President noted that the Congress voted against considering his re-

quest for \$20 million to fight rats (see story p. 3) and added:

"A strong government that has spent millions to protect baby calves from worms could surely afford to show as much concern for baby boys and girls."

"I believe," President Johnson said, "we should be counting the assets that these measures can bring to America: cities richer in opportunity; cities more full of promise; cities of order, progress and happiness."

REPUBLICAN RECORD OF OPPOSITION

Here is the Republican record of opposition in the House of Representatives to measures the Democratic administration has fought for to solve the problems of the cities.

Civil Rights Act of 1966	84 % of the Republicans opposed
Voting Rights Act	85 % of the Republicans opposed
1967 Model Cities Funds	80 % of the Republicans opposed
1966 Rent Supplements	97 % of the Republicans opposed
1967 Rent Supplements	93 % of the Republicans opposed
Model Cities	84 % of the Republicans opposed
1964 Poverty Program	87 % of the Republicans opposed
1966 Poverty Program	88 % of the Republicans opposed
1967 Food Stamp Plan	70 % of the Republicans opposed
Rat Extermination	87 % of the Republicans opposed
Funds for Education	73 % of the Republicans opposed
Raise the Minimum Wage	85 % of the Republicans opposed

57
EXECUTIVE

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September 25, 1967

Dear Mr. Steinhauser:

I was gratified to learn of your personal initiatives to secure passage of the Rat Extermination Bill.

Your timely and imaginative advertisement must surely have played an important part in persuading the Congress of the necessity for this vital legislation.

All who will benefit from it join in my thanks to you and Mr. Kollwe, *Chuck*

+

Sincerely,

lby

Mr. Bert Steinhauser
Vice President

+ Doyle, Dane, Bernbach, Inc.
20 West 43rd Street
New York, New York 10036

RECEIVED
SEP 27 1967
CIVIL FILES

LBJ:CMM:rks
3

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1967

apes From Pi

delphia, Syracuse and Sacramento.

The commercials created by J. Walter Thompson will have a Latin-American beat and words like: "A silly millimeter longer? Don't knock it till you've tasted it. The 101 . . . it's one better."

Fine, fine, but who will introduce the 155 with a bipod?

*

Irate Reader Strikes Back

Among the ad men-commuters who read in their morning papers on July 21 that the House of Representatives had voted down President Johnson's rat control bill, few could have been more upset than Bert Steinhauser of Doyle Dane Bernbach.

"I was so incensed," he recalled yesterday, "that I re-read the story six times."

Well, Mr. Steinhauser, a vice president and supervising director at the agency, is doing something about it. He and Chuck Kollwe, a copywriter, have created a hard-hitting ad — "A message from some citizens who think Congress made a mistake" — and he is trying to raise money to place it in papers across the country.

The ad will first appear in the Sept. 21 issue of The New York Review of Books, which is charging Mr. Steinhauser only the production costs.

It will show the picture of a mangy rat with the headline: "Cut this out and put it in bed next to your child." And the first part of the copy goes like this: "Go ahead. Try it, if you have the stomach for it. Lay it next to your baby and let him play with it. You can't? Then you have a lot more imagination than some of the members of our House of Representatives." There's a lot more copy, ending with the suggestion that the reader write his Congressman. Then appears a box score on how each Representative voted.

"I want that bill to go through," Mr. Steinhauser said. He means it.

*

The Advertiser Again

NEW YORK TIMES

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ORIGINAL COPY



Cut this out and put it in bed next to your child.

Go ahead. Try it, if you have the stomach for it. Lay it next to your baby and let him play with it.

You can't?

Then you have a lot more imagination than some of the members of our House of Representatives.

They don't even think real rats are anything to worry about.

That's why they laughed when they killed a bill that would have given \$40 million to our cities and states to help them pay for rat-control programs in our slums.

But the real shame is that they didn't even vote on the bill itself. They only voted on a rule that asked them to consider it.

And they voted 207 to 176 against it.

They had their reasons, of course. Economy was the most quoted one. They felt this country couldn't afford \$40 million.

Yet they were told that rats cause us an estimated \$900 million worth of damage each year.

Does that make economic sense?

They were also told that rats have killed more humans than all the

Maybe they've never seen a rat dash across into some hole under the sink when a light was

Maybe. But then a lot of us have been that our ignoring those who haven't?

There are 90 million rats in this country. What when their slum homes are torn down?

They go into our finest hotels and restaurants buildings, cellars, garages. They go everywhere. And they breed more rats.

That's why when our congressmen vote against they're voting against all of us. Not just the poor. Fortunately, there's still hope.

The vote was 207 to 176. That means if we change their votes when the bill comes up again in 191 — enough to pass it.

Below is a list of congressmen and how they voted. If yours voted for the bill, write him and let him and anything he can do to change the mind



Put this out and put it next to our child.

Maybe they've never seen a rat dash across their kitchen floor and into some hole under the sink when a light was snapped on.

Maybe. But then a lot of us have been that lucky. Does that excuse our ignoring those who haven't?

There are 90 million rats in this country. Where do you think they go when their slum homes are torn down?

They go into our finest hotels and restaurants; into modern apartment buildings, cellars, garages. They go everywhere and anywhere.

And they breed more rats.

That's why when our congressmen vote against getting rid of rats, they're voting against all of us. Not just the poor people. But all of us.

Fortunately, there's still hope.

The vote was 207 to 176. That means if we can get just 16 men to change their votes when the bill comes up again, the tally will be 192 to 191 — enough to pass it.

Below is a list of congressmen and how they voted.

If yours voted for the bill, write him and let him know you support him and anything he can do to change the minds of those who voted

Cut this out and put it in bed next to your child.

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have killed more humans than all the
And that thousands of our children are
killed or disfigured.

Especially when we're already spend-
estock and grains from rats?

lived in broken-down tenements where
inside the walls at night.

Maybe they've never seen a rat dash across their kitchen floor and
into some hole under the sink when a light was snapped on.

Maybe. But then a lot of us have been that lucky. Does that excuse
our ignoring those who haven't?

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Below is a list of congressmen and how they voted.

If yours voted for the bill, write him and let him know you support
him and anything he can do to change the minds of those who voted
against it.

If yours voted against the bill, write and let him know you want him
to change his vote.

Write to: Honorable _____,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

It's time we stopped giving rats equal rights with people.

ERMINATION BILL—176

O'Hara (Mich.)	Staggers (W. Va.)	Republicans—22
Olsen (Mont.)	Stephens (Ga.)	Cahill (N.J.)
O'Neill (Mass.)	Stubblefield (Ky.)	Conte (Mass.)
Ottinger (N.Y.)	Sullivan (Mo.)	Dwyer (N.J.)
Patman (Tex.)	Tenzler (N.Y.)	Esch (Mich.)
Patten (N.J.)	Thompson (N.J.)	Fino (N.Y.)
Perkins (Ky.)	Tunney (Calif.)	Gude (Md.)
Philbin (Mass.)	Udall (Ariz.)	Halpern (N.Y.)
Pickle (Tex.)	Ullman (Ore.)	Heckler (Mass.)
Pike (N.Y.)	Van Deulin (Calif.)	Horton (N.Y.)
Poage (Tex.)	Vanik (Ohio)	Kupferman (N.Y.)
Price (Ill.)	Vigorito (Pa.)	McDade (Pa.)
Randall (Mo.)	Waldie (Calif.)	Mathias (Md.)
Rees (Calif.)	Walker (N.M.)	Moore (W. Va.)
Resnick (N.Y.)	Willis (La.)	Mosher (Ohio)
Reuss (Wis.)	Wilson (Calif.)	Reid (N.Y.)
Rhodes (Pa.)	Wolff (N.Y.)	Riegle (Mich.)
Rivers (S.C.)	Yates (Ill.)	Schwicker (Pa.)
Rodino (N.J.)	Young (Tex.)	Vanderjagt (Mich.)
Rogers (Colo.)	Zablocki (Wis.)	Whalen (Ohio)
Ronan (Ill.)		Widnall (N.J.)
Rooney (Pa.)		Wylder (N.Y.)
Rosenthal (N.Y.)		
Rostenkowski (Ill.)		
Roush (Ind.)		
Roybal (Calif.)		
Ryan (N.Y.)		
St. Germain (R.I.)		
St. Onge (Conn.)		
Shipley (Ill.)		
Sisk (Calif.)		
Slack (W. Va.)		
Smith (Iowa)		

Recorded for but not actually voting:
Democrats—Kluczynski (Ill.), Adams
(Wash.), Conyers (Mich.), Pepper (Fla.),
Schauer (N.Y.), King (Calif.), Dent (Pa.),
Kirwan (Ohio), Murphy (Ill.), Tierman
(N.J.), Celler (N.Y.), Pucinski (Ill.),
MacDonald (Mass.), Karth (Minn.),
Howard (N.J.), Hawkins (Calif.), Diggs
(Mich.), Gray (Ill.), Boggs (La.), Evins
(Tenn.), and Hansen (Wash.).

AGAINST THE RAT EXTERMINATION BILL—207

Democrats—59	Mahon (Tex.)	Brock (Tenn.)	Gross (Iowa)	Morse (Mass.)	Scott (Va.)
Abbit (Va.)	Marsh (Va.)	Broomfield (Mich.)	Grover (N.Y.)	Morton (Md.)	Shriver (Kan.)
Abernethy (Miss.)	Millis (Ark.)	Brotzman (Colo.)	Gubser (Calif.)	Myers (Md.)	Skubitz (Kan.)
Andrews (Ala.)	Montgomery (Miss.)	Brown (Mich.)	Gurney (Fla.)	Neisen (Minn.)	Smith (Calif.)
Nichols (Ala.)	Nichols (Ala.)	Brown (Ohio)	Hall (Mo.)	O'Konski (Wis.)	Smith (N.Y.)
O'Neal (Ga.)	O'Neal (Ga.)	Broyhill (N.C.)	Halleck (Ind.)	Pelly (Wash.)	Smith (Okla.)
Ashmore (S.C.)	Pryor (Ark.)	Brophy (Va.)	Hammerschmidt (Ark.)	Pettis (Calif.)	Snyder (Ky.)
Baring (Nev.)	Purcell (Tex.)	Burke (Fla.)	Hansen (Idaho)	Pirnie (N.Y.)	Springer (Ill.)
Bennett (Fla.)	Rogers (Fla.)	Burton (Utah)	Harrison (Wyo.)	Poff (Va.)	Stafford (Vt.)
Bevill (Ala.)	Satterfield (Va.)	Bush (Tex.)	Harsha (Ohio)	Pollock (Alaska)	Stanton (Ohio)
Bilanton (Tenn.)	Selden (Ala.)	Button (N.Y.)	Hosmer (Calif.)	Price (Tex.)	Steiger (Ariz.)
Brinkley (Ga.)	Sikes (Fla.)	Byrnes (Wis.)	Hunt (N.J.)	Quie (Minn.)	Stelger (Wis.)
Burleson (Tex.)	Steed (Okla.)	Chamberlain (Mich.)	Hutchinson (Mich.)	Quillen (Tenn.)	Taft (Ohio)
Cabell (Tex.)	Stratton (N.Y.)	Clancy (Ohio)	Johnson (Pa.)	Railsback (Ill.)	Talcott (Calif.)
Casey (Tex.)	Stuckey (Ga.)	Don Clausen (Calif.)	Jonas (N.C.)	Reid (Ill.)	Teague (Calif.)
Colmer (Miss.)	Taylor (N.C.)	Del Clawson (Calif.)	Keith (Mass.)	Reifel (S.D.)	Thompson (Ga.)
Davis (Ga.)	Tuck (Va.)	Cleveland (N.H.)	King (N.Y.)	Reinecke (Calif.)	Thomson (Wis.)
Dingle (Mich.)	Waggoner (La.)	Collier (Ill.)	Kleppe (N.D.)	Rhodes (Ariz.)	Wampler (Va.)
Dowdy (Tex.)	Watts (Ky.)	Corbett (Pa.)	Langen (Minn.)	Robison (N.Y.)	Whalley (Pa.)
Everett (Tenn.)	White (Tex.)	Whitten (Miss.)	Latta (Ohio)	Roth (Del.)	Wiggins (Calif.)
Fascell (Fla.)	Wright (Tex.)	Cramer (Fla.)	Lipscomb (Calif.)	Roudebush (Ind.)	Williams (Pa.)
Fisher (Tex.)	Fuqua (Fla.)	Cunningham (Neb.)	Ruppe (Mich.)	Rumsfeld (Ill.)	Wilson (Calif.)
Flynt (Ga.)	Gathings (Ark.)	Curtis (Mo.)	Scherie (Iowa)	Schwengel (Iowa)	Winn (Kan.)
Fountain (N.C.)	Hagan (Ga.)	Davis (Wis.)	McClure (Idaho)	Wyman (N.H.)	Wyrie (Ohio)
Furqua (Fla.)	Andrews (N.D.)	Deffenback (Ore.)	McClulloch (Ohio)	Schwengel (Iowa)	Zwack (Minn.)
Gathings (Ark.)	Ashtbrook (Ohio)	Derwinski (Ill.)	McEwen (N.Y.)		
Hays (Ohio)	Bates (Mass.)	Devine (Ohio)	MacGregor (Minn.)		
Hebert (La.)	Battin (Mont.)	Dickinson (Ala.)	Dole (Kan.)		
Henderson (N.C.)	Belcher (Okla.)	Duncan (Tenn.)	Edwards (Ala.)		
Herling (Fla.)	Bell (Calif.)	Edwards (Ala.)	Erlenborn (Ill.)		
Hull (Mo.)	Berry (S.D.)	Eshleman (Pa.)	Findley (Ill.)		
Ichord (Mo.)	Betts (Ohio)	Frelinghuysen (N.J.)	Fulton (Pa.)		
Jerman (Okla.)	Blackburn (Va.)	Gooding (Pa.)			
Jones (Ala.)	Bow (Ohio)				
Jones (Mo.)	Bray (Ind.)				
Kernegay (N.C.)					
Lennon (N.C.)					

Recorded against but not actually voting:
Democrats—Rarick (La.), Passman (La.),
Williams (Miss.), Long (La.), Whitener
(N.C.), Dorn (S.C.), McMillan (S.C.), Pool
(Tex.), Teague (Tex.); Republicans—
Cederberg (Mich.), Wyatt (Ore.), Carter
(Ky.), Watkins (Pa.), Watson (S.C.), Utt
(Calif.), Kuykendall (Tenn.), Laird (Wis.),
Ford (Mich.), Arends (Ill.), Gardner (N.C.),
Mailliard (Calif.).

A message from some citizens who think Congress made a mistake.

PRESERVATION COPY

9/23/67

Too long. Too strong. Don't send
over two sentences. Rewrite.

LBJ:gt

7:00p

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 23, 1967

Dear Mr. Steinhauser:

Our success this week in reviving a rat control program reminded me of your personal efforts to achieve this vital legislation. You and Mr. Kollwee should be encouraged to know that your strong and timely advertisement urging Congressional passage of the Rat Extermination Bill had crossed my own and Secretary Weaver's desk several times. It was forwarded by individuals who applauded its purpose, and by groups who plan to reprint it.

I share the satisfaction you must find in knowing that your voice was persuasive. We who are bound in effort and conscience to safeguard our people and uplift our cities welcome your continuing initiatives. As individual commitment and citizen action are the wellspring of American progress, so are we all stronger in purpose and surer of the future because of your example.

You have my pride and gratitude for that.

Mr. Bert Steinhauser
Vice President
Doyle, Dane, Bernbach, Inc.
20 West 43rd Street
New York, New York 10036

THE WHITE HOUSE

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Sincerely,

Mr. Bert Steinhauser
Vice President
Doyle, Dane, Bernbach, Inc.
20 West 43rd Street
New York, New York 10036

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gafmc

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS
WASHINGTON

EXECUTIVE

LE/FI 5-4 ~~LE/AG 5-1~~

[NW 6/19/74]

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7G 11-3

August 29, 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JOSEPH A. CALIFANO

Subject: FHA Interest Ceilings

On August 17 I sent you a draft of my reply to Senator ^xSparkman, *John* on FHA interest ceilings, asking for your approval.

I have not heard directly from Senator Sparkman. But according to the press, he is awaiting my reply.

BOB has cleared my response. But I believe it would be useful to have your clearance, too.



Gardner Ackley

LEL:

It's o.k. with JAC
if you clear it.

Done -
per LEL

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your letter of August 11, requesting our views on the section of S. 1445 setting a 6-percent interest ceiling on FHA mortgages.

The experience of the past year points up important shortcomings in the present statutory ceiling. Heavy discounting of FHA mortgages has clearly frustrated the implied aim of holding the interest rate effectively at or below 6 percent. It has been an inefficient way of raising the yield. Yet, only because of discounting has there been any significant flow of funds into FHA mortgages. If the ceiling had been effective in holding the rate down, it would not have provided inexpensive FHA money -- but rather no FHA money at all.

During the past year, heavy discounting has pushed the average yield on FHA mortgages well above the 6-percent statutory limit. Except for a brief respite this spring, average yields on FHA mortgages have exceeded 6.4 percent since July, 1966. FHA mortgages are currently being discounted more than 5 percent. This means that, for a home sale with 90 percent FHA financing, either the seller must pay nearly 5 percent of the purchase price as discount to the mortgagee, or the buyer must increase his initial payment from 10 percent of the purchase price to nearly 15 percent.

Many potential home buyers, especially those in low- and middle-income groups, cannot meet this nearly 50 percent increase in move-in costs, and many potential home sellers, especially those with a small equity in their property, cannot or will not pay the discount fee by reducing the effective purchase price. If the FHA interest rate were allowed to reach a level that led to little or no discounting, the initial selling or buying costs of housing would be substantially reduced, while the monthly interest and amortization payments for the buyer would be slightly increased. For example, on a 30-year \$10,000 mortgage, if FHA interest rates were allowed to reach the current average yield and if discounts were thereby eliminated, the home purchaser would save \$510 in discount costs in return for increasing his monthly interest and amortization payment by \$1.75. This would be a net saving of \$510, or 5.1 percent of the purchase price (including interest, amortization, taxes and insurance) for a property priced at \$10,000.

Most individuals, and especially those in middle- or low-income brackets, clearly find higher monthly payments far more palatable than a large initial discount. The willingness of consumers to purchase consumer durables through "installment plans" at much higher interest rates than those charged for home loans gives testimony to this fact. As a result of this preference, the large discount requirements now existing for FHA mortgages have had an appreciable depressive effect upon the housing market. Should interest rates persist at or near current levels, and should the current 6-percent ceiling be retained, the housing market will continue to be restrained, particularly the market for low- and middle-income housing.

As indicated by the Secretary of the Treasury in his Report to the Congress of January 21, 1967, "To encourage private participation in Federal credit programs, interest rate ceilings on guaranteed loans should be determined on the basis of competitive market rates to the greatest extent possible." At present, the 6-percent ceiling frustrates the execution of the policy recommended by the Secretary.

However, to remedy the current situation by allowing FHA mortgage rates to be determined freely in the market would be an unsatisfactory solution. In 1963 the President's Committee on Federal Credit Programs presented several reasons for continued Federal authority over FHA mortgage rates -- which remain valid today:

"(a) Such authority is useful in helping to assure one of the major purposes of the program, the availability of funds at reasonable interest rates.

"(b) Since Federal agencies bear most of the risk, they should have authority to make sure that the interest charged by lenders does not include unnecessary compensation for such risks.

"(c) Since the market for many types of credit is imperfect and interest rates tend to respond slowly to changes in the availability of funds, properly administered ceilings can help to overcome inertia.

"(d) By affecting market expectations, changes in ceilings can sometimes accelerate desired adjustments in effective rates on the loans involved as well as changes in yields of other related market obligations.

A system of administratively flexible FHA interest ceilings, determined on the basis of current conditions in the mortgage market and unrestricted by specific statutory ceilings, combines the benefits of rates set by the market with the benefits of Federal authority. We concur with the findings of the Secretary of the Treasury, as outlined in his Report to Congress, that Federal agencies can reach reasonable conclusions as to appropriate rates of return on FHA mortgages on the basis of information now available.

The Bureau of the Budget

Sincerely yours,

Gardner Ackley

Honorable John Sparkman
Chairman
Committee on Banking and Currency
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

8/17/67
RN/AO/GA:gr

cc: 4 copies to Mr. Rommel (for clearance)
AO, JD, RN, CW

August 26, 1967

FOR Larry Levinson

FROM Joe Califano

Please handle with Ackley.

*Done -
per LBL*

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS
WASHINGTON

August 17, 1967

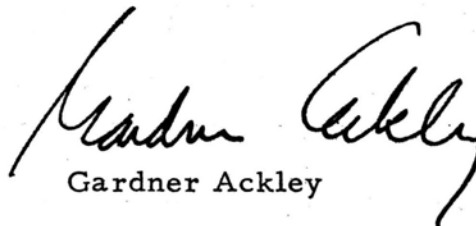
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JOSEPH A. CALIFANO

Subject: FHA Interest Ceilings

Attached is a draft reply to Senator Sparkman's letter asking the Council's views on elimination of the statutory ceiling on FHA interest rates. Even if Budget approves my letter, I should like to be sure that the White House has no objection.

You asked me recently to draft a reply for you to a letter from John de Laittre on the same subject. I shall withhold drafting a reply until I hear from you on this matter.

I feel very strongly that the Administration should support removal of the fixed statutory ceiling.


Gardner Ackley

8/27
Handwritten notes: "Have Sparkman", "Please handle", "w/ally", and a large "J".

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS
WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your letter of August 11, requesting our views on the section of S. 1445 setting a 6-percent interest ceiling on FHA mortgages.

The experience of the past year points up important shortcomings in the present statutory ceiling. Heavy discounting of FHA mortgages has clearly frustrated the implied aim of holding the interest rate effectively at or below 6 percent. It has been an inefficient way of raising the yield. Yet, only because of discounting has there been any significant flow of funds into FHA mortgages. If the ceiling had been effective in holding the rate down, it would not have provided inexpensive FHA money -- but rather no FHA money at all.

During the past year, heavy discounting has pushed the average yield on FHA mortgages well above the 6-percent statutory limit. Except for a brief respite this spring, average yields on FHA mortgages have exceeded 6.4 percent since July, 1966. FHA mortgages are currently being discounted more than 5 percent. This means that, for a home sale with 90 percent FHA financing, either the seller must pay nearly 5 percent of the purchase price as discount to the mortgagee, or the buyer must increase his initial payment from 10 percent of the purchase price to nearly 15 percent.

Many potential home buyers, especially those in low- and middle-income groups, cannot meet this nearly 50 percent increase in move-in costs, and many potential home sellers, especially those with a small equity in their property, cannot or will not pay the discount fee by reducing the effective purchase price. If the FHA interest rate were allowed to reach a level that led to little or no discounting, the initial selling or buying costs of housing would be substantially reduced, while the monthly interest and amortization payments for the buyer would be slightly increased. For example, on a 30-year \$10,000 mortgage, if FHA interest rates were allowed to reach the current average yield and if discounts were thereby eliminated, the home purchaser would save \$510 in discount costs in return for increasing his monthly interest and amortization payment by \$2.47. This \$2.47 is less than 3 percent of the total monthly payment (including interest, amortization, taxes and insurance) for property priced at \$12,000.

Most individuals, and especially those in middle- or low-income brackets, clearly find higher monthly payments far more palatable than a large initial discount. The willingness of consumers to purchase consumer durables through "installment plans" at much higher interest rates than those charged for home loans gives testimony to this fact. As a result of this preference, the large discount requirements now existing for FHA mortgages have had an appreciable depressive effect upon the housing market. Should interest rates persist at or near current levels, and should the current 6-percent ceiling be retained, the housing market will continue to be restrained, particularly the market for low- and middle-income housing.

As indicated by the Secretary of the Treasury in his Report to the Congress of January 21, 1967, "To encourage private participation in Federal credit programs, interest rate ceilings on guaranteed loans should be determined on the basis of competitive market rates to the greatest extent possible." At present, the 6-percent ceiling frustrates the execution of the policy recommended by the Secretary.

However, to remedy the current situation by allowing FHA mortgage rates to be determined freely in the market would be an unsatisfactory solution. In 1963 the President's Committee on Federal Credit Programs presented several reasons for continued Federal authority over FHA mortgage rates -- which remain valid today:

"(a) Such authority is useful in helping to assure one of the major purposes of the program, the availability of funds at reasonable interest rates.

"(b) Since Federal agencies bear most of the risk, they should have authority to make sure that the interest charged by lenders does not include unnecessary compensation for such risks.

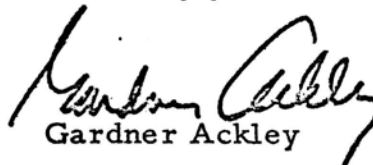
"(c) Since the market for many types of credit is imperfect and interest rates tend to respond slowly to changes in the availability of funds, properly administered ceilings can help to overcome inertia.

"(d) By affecting market expectations, changes in ceilings can sometimes accelerate desired adjustments in effective rates on the loans involved as well as changes in yields of other related market obligations."

A system of administratively flexible FHA interest ceilings, determined on the basis of current conditions in the mortgage market and unrestricted by specific statutory ceilings, combines the benefits of rates set by the market with the benefits of Federal authority. We concur with the findings of the Secretary of the Treasury, as outlined in his Report to Congress, that Federal agencies can reach reasonable conclusions as to appropriate rates of return on FHA mortgages on the basis of information now available.

The Bureau of the Budget

Sincerely yours,



Gardner Ackley

Honorable John Sparkman
Chairman
Committee on Banking and Currency
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

August 25, 1967

18235 EXECUTIVE

FA4

HS3

HS2

LE/AG-5-1

AG-5-1

FG431/Banking

FG170/Currency

Dear Mr. Chairman: *John G. Sparkman*

When the Nation's needs are so urgent, business as usual cannot be the rule. It is in a spirit of urgency that I write to you, as a leader in the Senate and as a distinguished expert in the field of urban housing.

The United States faces a critical need for sound, clean, and comfortable housing for poor families. President Truman's twenty year old goal of a "decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family" remains unfulfilled.

As the Committee on Banking and Currency continues its deliberations on housing measures, I propose a two-part program to accelerate, modernize, and increase the supply of low-income housing by an additional 100,000 units.

First: I urge the committee to act quickly to make available -- six months earlier than now possible -- \$47 million for public housing projects of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. These amounts are already in existing authorizations. Under my proposal, the funds would be made available to HUD on January 1, 1968, instead of on July 1, 1968, as the law now provides.

This will avoid delay. It will sustain our momentum, especially in the new private production management program -- Operation Turnkey. It will make possible much sooner the construction and modernization of 50,000 housing units for American families.

Second: I urge the committee to increase the current authorization for low-income housing by \$50 million. This can permit work to start on more than 50,000 additional units.

With these two actions:

- we can continue our campaign to provide more adequate public housing, responding to increased demands by our cities.

EXECUTIVE

LE/AM5-1

AM5-1

PU2-6

(4)

August 16, 1967

Honorable H. R. ^xGross
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Gross:

The President has asked me to reply to your letter of August 14 on rats. Although the quotation you attribute to the President is not from his "nationally televised speech on the subject of riots," of July 27, it does reflect his deep concern over the human injury and anguish brought about by this shameful condition in our cities.

We are aware, of course, that you do not share the Administration's view, judging by your jokes and comments about the problem in the debate in the House.

As you know from that debate, most rat bites are not reported, and many cities do not keep statistics on rat bites. But enough bites are reported to make possible reliable estimates. For example, in nine large cities alone, data for the latest available period add up to more than 1,000 rat bites per year. As Department of Health, Education and Welfare research shows (Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare, Public Health Service; "Rat Bite: Epidemiology and Control," 1966), "conservative estimates place current rat-bite incidence at about 14,000 per year."

Furthermore, this research reports 23 per cent of rat bites occur on the head -- and that a very large percentage of those bitten are babies lying in their cribs.

^x
Robert C. Wood

Joe Califano:

Per our conversation, herewith
my letter in response to Congressman
Gross.


Robert C. Wood

RECEIVED

AUG 17 1967

CENTRAL FILES

These statistics seem to be substantial enough evidence to cause concern about disfigurement. However, to provide further and more dramatic evidence, enclosed are illustrative exhibits of a rat's work. These pictures show the disfiguring results more vividly than statistics.

Finally, let me report on some possibly more meaningful statistics. These are the Harris Poll figures released last week. They indicate that 60% of the American public believe we need to mount a stronger attack on rats and our other urban problems if we are to begin to build the cities this nation deserves.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Wood

Enclosures





Publication or Copyrighted Material not Scanned in Its Entirety

[For Full Access, Contact the Archives of the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library and Museum]

Type of Material: Magazine

Author(s):

Title of Publication or Description: World Health

Publisher: World Health Organization

Title of Series/Chapter/Article: entire magazine

Edition:

Volume Number:

Issue Number:

Date of Publication: April, 1967

Page Numbers: 22 pages

cs/doy

Rat

EXECUTIVE

LE/AG 5-1

AG 5-1

HS

HE

FG 11-15

PU 2-2

PR 18-1

August 14, 1967

MEMORANDUM TO:

Herbert J. Kramer
Director of Public Affairs
Office of Economic Opportunity

Attached is your report on ~~Operation~~ Rat.
Although there is no rush, it would be helpful
if you could get us a copy from Atlanta.

James C. Gaither

August 10, 1967

TO: Joe Califano

FROM: Jim Gaither

Shriver would like to know whether you have talked to George Christian about Shriver's appearing on Face the Nation this Sunday. Sarge feels that Clifford can be scheduled any time and that it is important that OEO get on television this Sunday.

Shall I tell Sarge to go ahead with the Sunday appearance?

Yes _____ No _____

Mr. Califano put this in his
out box. I assume he
has talked to Mr. Gaither
about it. File
Rat exterminator

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 28, 1967

TO: Joe Califano

FROM: Jim Gaither *JG*

I think the President might be interested in the attached statement by the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights condemning the House action on the Rat bill. It is the result, at least in part, of your request that I get Hardesty's people working on statements last week.

RECEIVED
JOE CALIFANO, JR.

1967 JUL 28 PM 4 59

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

4:00 p.m. Friday
July 28, 1967

FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM Joe Califano

I thought you might be interested in the attached statement by the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights attacking the House action on the Rat Extermination Act. The statement begins:

"The vote of the House, last Thursday, against even considering a Federal program of rat extermination is an act of shocking irresponsibility."

**LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE
ON
CIVIL RIGHTS**



ROY WILKINS, Chairman
ARNOLD ARONSON, Secretary
JOSEPH L. RAUH, JR., Counsel
CLARENCE M. MITCHELL, Legislative Chairman
MARVIN CAPLAN, Director Washington Office
J. FRANCIS POHLHAUS, Special Consultant
YVONNE PRICE, Executive Assistant

2027 Mass. Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036 phone 667-1780

• New York address: 20 West 40th St., New York 10018, phone BRyant 9-1400

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CIVIL RIGHTS GROUPS CALL HOUSE ACT ON RACE BILL "SHOCKING"

WASHINGTON, July 24 The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, a coalition of 112 national civil rights, labor, religious and civic organizations, today issued a statement protesting the refusal of the House last week to consider H. R. 11000, the Race Extermination Act of 1967.

The statement said:

"The vote of the House, last Thursday, against even considering a Federal program of race extermination is an act of shocking irresponsibility.

To the millions of poor in our large cities, whose children's lives are endangered by these pests, this latest action of the House is another evidence of Congressional indifference to their lot. It can only add to their sense of hopelessness.

In refusing even to take up the bill, the House compounded the harm it did the day before by passing the anti-riot act. We look to Congress to deal with the worsening crises of our cities. The response of the House, last week was, first to vote out a bill that holds the indiscriminate threat of being branded and imprisoned as a troublemaker over anyone who protests conditions in our cities and then to reject an opportunity to do one relatively small but important thing about those conditions.

MORE.....

"Cooperation in the Common Cause of Civil Rights for All"



The Leadership Conference has observed on many occasions that the root cause of urban riots is the intolerable circumstance that surrounds the life of the ghetto poor; rat-infested houses are a familiar and terrible part of their lives.

A House that offers no compassion to poor people, a House whose answer to the ills of the urban ghetto is to deal with the most peripheral cause of urban unrest leaves us appalled.

We call upon all members of the House to reconsider what they have done, to take up this bill and pass it.

END

EPIDEMIOLOGY Of Rats & Men

"Some of your best friends are rats," declares the American Cancer Society in ads that hail the research variety's services to medical science. But the wild *Rattus norvegicus* is man's worst animal enemy. It bites his babies, inflicting deforming and infected wounds; it cuts down his food supply, and it spreads disease. It was used as an instrument of torture in the Middle Ages, and now it is torturing the Johnson Administration, which is trying to get Congress to enact a \$40 million rat-control bill (see THE NATION).

The female rat is capable of breeding at four months, and usually produces four litters, each of six or more young, in her reproductive year. If all lived, one pair would have millions of descendants in two or three years, but the attrition is high enough to keep the numbers fairly constant. Estimates of the U.S. rat population (largely guesswork) range from 90 million to 100 million, or about half as many rats as people. For New York City, the estimates run as high as 8,000,000, or one rat per person. The U.S. Department of the Interior figures that a rat eats 40 lbs. of food a year, and spoils twice as much. The nation's total rat damage is roughly \$1 billion a year.

Sewer to Kitchen. Rats' appetites are a cause of human starvation. The World Health Organization puts the worldwide loss of stored cereals at 33 million tons a year—enough to feed some 200 million people. Rats in a silo may eat only a few bushels of grain, but their droppings and hair make a far greater quantity unfit for human consumption.

Despite doubts about the role of rats in long-ago typhus epidemics, there is no doubt that they and their fleas transmit what doctors call murine typhus, a milder but perennial and widespread form of the disease. In their travels from sewers to trash cans to kitchens, rats may carry the germs of epidemic jaundice, tularemia, typhoid fever and severe food poisoning, the parasites of trichinosis, and even rabies virus.

The rat's most distinctive contribution to human ill health comes from its bite. There are credible stories of men, exhausted and sleeping, or trapped in a mine shaft, being bitten to death by rats. Far more common today is the case of the city mother, awakened by a cry in the middle of the night, who finds her infant in his crib bleeding from rat bites on the nose, lips or ears. The rat usually flees on her approach

and escapes. The child may suffer from either of two types of rat bite fever or from many common infections.

Estimates of how many people are bitten each year in the U.S. run to 50,000 or more. New York City averages 600 reported cases a year. As in the rest of the U.S., 90% of the victims are young children.

Pets & Poisons. For all their misdeeds, rats are not really to blame. It is man who is at fault. "If we could only get people to keep the lids tight on metal garbage containers," says Clar-

cats, despite their reputation, are not very effective as rat exterminators.

Arsenic, strychnine, phosphorus and thallium salts are effective rat poisons, but far too dangerous where there are children or pets. Probably the oldest of rat poisons is about the most effective and also the safest: red squill, from the ground root of a European plant. Mixed with freshly ground meat or fish baits, it is harmless to children, cats, dogs and even squirrels.

Perhaps still more potent, and still relatively safe, is the anticoagulant drug warfarin. Less than 1/500th of an ounce is enough to make an adult rat die of internal bleeding. Ironically, the brown rats' white kin in laboratories helped University of Wisconsin researchers develop warfarin anticoagulants as life-savers for men and killers for rats.



BITTEN CHILD IN BROOKLYN SLUM
And enough food for 200 million people.

ence W. Travis of the District of Columbia's Health Department, "we could wipe out the rats in six months. We put poison down in the alleys and distribute free poison to people in blighted areas, but they leave so much juicy, greasy garbage around that the rats pay no attention to the poison."

Travis complains that most people simply do not realize what attracts rats. Rich-smelling fried food left in an empty room is bait. So are dishes in the sink. So is the feeding of dogs, cats, squirrels and birds in the backyard. Among the worst offenders are construction workmen who throw away lunch-eon leftovers. "There hasn't been a building put up in Washington in 15 years that the rats didn't move into before the people," says Travis. "You have the exterminator working on the first floor by the time they're laying concrete on the second."

Since rats will eat anything, they should be easy to poison. But they are not. Psychologists explain that rats have two contradictory traits: along with a willingness to sample anything potable or edible, they have a deep suspicion of whatever is new. So exterminators give the rats time to get used to the sight and smell of their traps and baits before they expect results. Dogs and

EXECUTIVE

F114
LG/Houston

THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20410

LE/AGS-14
AGS-1
FG/70
JUL 27 1967

Bel Blokhorn ⑥
for info-

MEMORANDUM FOR: Barefoot Sanders
Legislative Counsel to the President
The White House

Our General Counsel, Thomas C. McGrath, Jr., and the Chief Counsel for Renewal Assistance, Leigh Curry, visited with Congressman Casey of Houston on July 25 about the problem mentioned in your July 11, 1967, memorandum.

Bob

Houston is the only large city in the country which has no zoning ordinance. For this reason it does not have an approved Workable Program, which is a statutory prerequisite to certain HUD programs. Although the statutory language is general, we have always required land use controls, including zoning and subdivision regulations, as indispensable municipal activities necessary for Workable Program certification.

Congressman Casey is concerned that since the Houston electorate has voted against zoning several times, the City is precluded from participation in such programs as urban renewal, model cities, public housing and the proposed rat control program.

We have explained to the Congressman that our "zoning" requirement under Workable Program means effective land use control and can be met by an effective land use control system, whether or not it is zoning as such. We have also told him that our Regional Administrator has met with the Mayor of Houston's Advisory Committee on Housing and discussed this among other matters. The Committee, with the cooperation of our Regional Office, will explore alternative mechanisms for land use control which might fulfill the requirement. They are also discussing a study (and possible HUD financing for it) of the existing situation which might contribute to development of an acceptable alternative to zoning.

BB/gph
MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

EXECUTIVE
LE/AG5-1
SP

(7)

Saturday, July 22, 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR JOSEPH CALIFANO

SUBJECT: Support Statements by Private Groups on the
Rat Extermination Act

At the request of Jim Gaithe r on Thursday, July 20th, I contacted the^x League of Women Voters with a request that they publicly criticize the House vote against the Rat Extermination Act of 1967. I also took the liberty of contacting other urban oriented organizations, with the following results:

1. The League of Women Voters, although favoring this type of bill, said that it could not comment officially because the item was not listed in the League's approved legislative calendar. No statement.
2. I took the initiative in contacting various national civil rights organizations through the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission:
 - a. The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, headed by Roy^x Wilkins, said that it was issuing a statement condemning the House action.
 - b. The^x Urban League said that it was strongly considering issuing such a statement.
 - c. The^x NAACP said the same.
3. The^x National Association of Homebuilders was contacted. They support the Act, and indicated they would include comments on the House action in their testimony before the Senate on Monday or Tuesday of next week.
4. The^x AFL-CIO legislative office was contacted. They also indicated that comments on the defeat of the bill would be included in their testimony before the Senate on Monday or Tuesday of next week.

RRK
Robert R. Klein
(Office of Robert Hardesty)

RECEIVED
JUL 24 1967
CENTRAL FILES

REC'D
7-21-67
1:50 PM
EF/CF
MEMORANDUM

(4)
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

EXECUTIVE
LE/AGS-1
AGS-1
FG 170
(2)

July 21, 1967
Friday, 1: p.m.

FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Barefoot Sanders *BS*

Aside from the obvious fact that the coalition of Republicans and Southern Democrats combined to defeat the Rat Extermination bill rule yesterday, I think the following also contributed to the defeat:

1. Bad Strategy. The bill was originally a part of this year's Omnibus Housing package. Sometime ago HUD conceived the idea of bringing out of committee only the Rat Extermination portion, dropping all other titles in Committee. The remainder of the Omnibus Housing measure was then to be added on in the Senate after House passage. The thought was that the Rat bill would pass easily and would not invite hostile amendments whereas an Omnibus Housing bill would be subject to hostile amendments.

The strategy was originally conceived by John Barriere, the Speaker's lieutenant. Chairman Patman questioned it but went along.

Shortly after I came over here Weaver and Wood mentioned this at a meeting with Joe Califano and me. I raised the question that this might be just a little too "cute". Joe likewise had some reservations. We did not, however, veto the idea.

In retrospect it would probably have been better to have left Rat Extermination as part of the larger bill. Standing alone it was subject to ridicule and was being termed the "civil rats bill" and the "Rat Patman bill" and so on. This ridicule took the attention of the members away from the merits, as it was calculated to do.

Nothing else sent to
Central Files as of 12/26/67
EF

2. Bad Execution. HUD felt entirely too secure about this bill. We were assured that a count was being made and was favorable. Wednesday afternoon I asked Sprague to have HUD bring the count over here. It turned out that the favorable count was based principally on conjecture and only partly on personal contacts.

I then asked Weaver and Wood to get on the phone and stay there, calling delegation leaders. They said they would. As of noon Wednesday they were still optimistic about the bill.

We at the White House began making calls Thursday morning but there was not enough time to get the job done although the storm signals were there to read.

There are some recriminations going on about whether the bill should have been brought to the floor Thursday. I told the Speaker Wednesday afternoon that we were not requesting a postponement. Whether a delay would have helped I don't know - perhaps it would, but I think when we are setting target dates for passage and pushing the Leadership to get legislation brought up we should not be in the position of seeking postponements. We should have been ready.

The Whip count was favorable and, as usual, it was completely unreliable and dead wrong.

The defeat can be accounted for in part by the rebellious mood of the House and the desire of many members to have a conservative economy vote and to assert their independence of the Administration. This is particularly true of the Southerners. It is a strange and interesting phenomenon that Congressmen are more likely to look for an economy vote where relatively small amounts are involved, as here.

Politically, the Republicans have given us an issue which we should exploit. Hardesty's shop is preparing speeches for us to put in the Record.

II

It is clear that every bill as to which there is the slightest controversy may be in trouble on the House floor, particularly where additional and new appropriations are involved.

I intend to call in each Cabinet officer and his Congressional Relations man and emphasize to them that (1) it is their responsibility to have a count made on their measures well ahead of floor consideration, and (2) the only way to get a count is to talk to the members. We will then know where to concentrate our efforts here.

We know we can't rely on the Whip system. We can rely on the House leadership only to a limited extent. The Speaker is very good on the phone calling individual members a day or two before the vote but he does not do any organizing. Carl is conscientious and dependable but overworked, and I think he looks worse than he did earlier this year. If anything, he should slow down.

I believe that we in the White House should pick those items on the legislative program that are absolute musts and concentrate on them. I do not agree with Carl that we should consider abandoning all other legislation. But I do think that aside from the must items the responsibility for passing legislation has got to be placed squarely on the agencies and I intend to tell them so. They have simply got to understand that the 90th Congress is not the pushover that the 89th was.

The White House should not be in the position of canvassing all Democrats in Congress once or twice a week on legislation. We lose our impact by asking for help too often.

I will work out with O'Brien for our own confidential use, subject to your approval, a list of these must items. I will also continue to concentrate with Carl on moving all Administration legislation out of committee. Even if we lose some more of it, by making the effort we will preserve the issue if we want to use it.

RECEIVED
DEC 20 1967
CENTRAL FILES

PRESS RELEASE

The United States Conference of Mayors

1707 H Street, N. W.

Washington, D. C. 2000

ORGANIZED TO IMPROVE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION THROUGH THE INTERCHANGE OF INFORMATION

BB/gph

Contact: Wilbur H. Baldinger
Telephone: 298-7535

EXECUTIVE ⁽³⁾

LE/A65-1

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 20, 1967

16/Pittsburgh
SP/16/Pittsburgh

WASHINGTON - Mayor Joseph M. ^XBarr of Pittsburgh, President of the U. S. Conference of Mayors, issued the following statement today:

"Refusal by the House to consider the Administration's rat ex-termination program is deplored by the ^XU. S. Conference of Mayors. We hope that the House will reconsider its action, which clearly was not based on the merits of the measure."

---000---

7:20 p.m., Saturday
July 22, 1967

FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM Joe Califano

Attached is Mayor Barr's statement on the Rat Control Bill.

L

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 20, 1967
Thursday, 5:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE

LES

LE/AG 5-1

AG 5-1

LE/AG 6/Railroad

FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Barefoot Sanders

The 207 - 176 vote by which the rule on the Rat
Extermination bill was defeated is broken down as follows:

<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>
159 Democrats	56 Democrats
17 Republicans	151 Republicans

These figures are taken from a duplicate of the
Clerk's rolls, the marks on which are always a little blurred
so the figures may not be exact.

There were 33 absent Democrats.

Of the 56 Democrats voting against the rule 39 are from
the South, 8 are from Texas, and 9 from elsewhere. A surprise
was Dingell; his no vote is probably evidence of his dissatisfaction
about the Railway Labor bill.

I discussed this defeat with Carl Albert who says that
it is a reflection of the rebellious mood of the House. Carl
strongly recommends that no new programs be sent to the
House floor, at least for the time being, and preferably during
the remainder of this session. He thinks that only essential
programs should be scheduled for the remainder of the session,
and may ask to see you about this.

Today's vote was a cheap economy vote. The effect is
to kill the bill as drawn although it can be resubmitted under
another rule if slightly revised, which would be inadvisable, or
as part of an Omnibus Housing bill coming over from the Senate.
Senate action on an Omnibus Housing bill is still weeks away.

FILE MEMO:
EF/dg
February 1, 1967

EXECUTIVE
FG 11-8-1/Moyers, Bill
TR 22
TR 11
PC
FG 105-6-1
LE/AG 5-1
SP
SP 2-3/1964/WE
PR 16
TR 18

Box # 1480 sent to Central Files From Bill Moyers' office containing folders of 1964 correspondence.

New York Fund Raising Dinner Trip, 5/28/64

New York President's Club Luncheon, 2/4/64-2/5/64

Peace Corp Volunteers

National Advisory Council of Peace Corp

Pennsylvania Travel Raising - (Empty folder)

Pesticide Signing Statement, 5/2/64 - S.1605

Poverty Message - March 16, 1964

Quayle Polls - (Confidential)

Poverty Trip # 1 and #2 (4/23 - 4/24/64) 2 folders

Poverty Trip #2 - Part 2 - 5/7/64 - 5/8/64.

 MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 26, 1966
1:15 p.m.

EXECUTIVE

LE/ANS-1
ANS-1

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT KINTNER

SUBJECT: Presidential Statement on Signing of Screwworm Bill

Attached is a draft statement by the President to be issued on signing of Screwworm bill -- H.R. 14888.

We have deliberately generalized the details of the bill. We do not think it would be in good taste for the President to issue a statement detailing how our scientists have devised methods of sterilizing screwworm flies -- which is really the crux of the matter. We have discussed this with Bill Moyers and he agrees.

RH/WS

RECEIVED
JUL 28 1966
CENTRAL FILES

Signing of Screwworm Bill
H. R. 14888 *July*
Wednesday, ~~Sept.~~ 27, 1966
Words: 234

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I have today signed into law a bill which would allow us to
join with the Republic of Mexico in a program to eradicate the
screwworm, a major livestock pest, *from most of North America.*

The screwworm maims and kills by infesting wounds on
warmblooded animals. Until recently, it was responsible for
losses running as high as \$100 million a year to cattlemen in the
United States alone.

by breaking the reproductive cycle of the
We now know how to control this pest, ~~Using a new scientific~~ *screwworm fly.*
Through a cooperative program of Federal and
~~technique along the 2,000 mile border from the Gulf of Mexico to~~
State Governments and the livestock industry,
~~the Pacific Coast,~~ we have virtually freed the United States of
established populations of the insect.

But there are drawbacks to the present method. It costs us nearly \$5 million a year to maintain an artificial barrier of *from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific Ocean* 2,000 miles -- and even this does not rid Mexico of the screwworm problem.

Last Spring, ~~Mexican and United States~~ livestock producers *on both sides of the border* formally requested our governments to study the feasibility of pushing the defensive ~~border~~ *barrier* against screwworm down to a narrow section of southern Mexico, such as the 140-mile Isthmus of Tehuantepec. Such a ~~border~~ *barrier* -- benefiting both nations -- could be maintained at a fraction of the present cost.

The legislation I have signed today is *actually* ~~really~~ standby authority to proceed with this plan, should it prove feasible and desirable.

This measure is another example of the spirit of cooperation and warm friendship which exists between the people of Mexico and the United States. With it, we shall demonstrate// once again/ *by working together* that ~~with determination and fellowship in the pursuit of mutual goals,~~ we can ~~continue to~~ bring great benefits to the people of both our lands.

EXECUTIVE

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Off to

7/27

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11 AM

Screw Worm Eradication Bill

The White House
Washington

1966 JUL 20 AM 2 05

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MP DALLAS TEX 19 416P CST

JAKE JACOBSEN

THE WHITE HOUSE

BECAUSE OF GREAT SUCCESS OF PROGRAM TO DATE AND INTEREST IN
SCREW WORM ERADICATION, DOLPH BRISCOE, JR. UVALDE, TEXAS,
AND I HOPE WE MIGHT BE PRESENT IF PRESIDENT SCHEDULES PUBLIC SIGNING
OF BILL AUTHORIZING U. S. MEXICO COOPERATION IN SCREW
WORM ERADICATION SPONSORED BY REPRESENTATIVE POAGE AND
SENATOR MONTOYA

C S STRUGGS EDITOR THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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JUL 21 1966

FORM 605 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY, U.S.A.

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(2)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

BUREAU OF THE BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

FG11-1

CM/Pesticides

Valenti

May 7, 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR GEORGE REEDY

From: Joe Laitin *JL*

Calling your attention to an enrolled bill sent to the President today for action on or before Tuesday, May 12. The bill represents significant progress in the protection of the public in the use of pesticides.

The accompanying draft of a proposed signing statement, plus the background sheet, should be adequate, but if you plan to release it and require additional information, please call.

Attachment

RECEIVED
JUL 20 1965
CENTRAL FILES

Nothing else sent to
Central Files as of *7/20/65*

MAY 7 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill S. 1605 - To amend the Federal Insecticide,
Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
Sponsors - Sen. Ribicoff (D) Connecticut and Sen. Pearson
(R) Kansas

Last Day for Action

May 12, 1964 - Tuesday

Purpose

To provide more effective controls with regard to the approval and labeling of economic poisons.

Agency Recommendations

Bureau of the Budget	Approval
Department of Agriculture	Approval
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare	Approval
Department of the Interior	Approval
Office of Science and Technology	Approval (informally)
Department of Justice	No objection

Discussion

The bill closes a significant gap in the protection of the public from dangerous pesticides and related chemicals (so-called "economic poisons") which, under present law, can be sold on the market, even though the Secretary of Agriculture has objected to their use. Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act an applicant now has the right to demand and receive registration of an economic poison under protest when regular registration is denied, even though the denial is based upon a possible hazard to the public involved in its use. While the Department of Agriculture may proceed against poisons registered under protest, the government in such cases bears the burden of proof and lengthy proceedings may be involved; the product can therefore be sold on the market for an extended period before proof of its harmfulness can be developed and action taken. The enactment eliminates registration under protest and gives the Department authority to deny

or cancel any registration or require modification of claims or labeling in any case, after opportunity for referral of the matter to an advisory committee and a public hearing. Further important protection to the public is the authority conferred on the Secretary of Agriculture to immediately suspend the registration of any economic poison when he finds such action is necessary to prevent imminent hazard to the public.

Second, so that the consumer may know whether a product has been registered, the bill permits the registration number to be shown on the label and authorizes the Secretary to require that it be shown.

The merits of both features of the bill are clear and represent progress in the protection of the public in the use of pesticides. The elimination of the protest registration had been mentioned in your Health and Consumer Messages, and had been recommended by the President's Science Advisory Committee report, "Use of Pesticides." In view of this background and of the widespread public interest in the pesticide problem, consideration has been given to the possibility of a Presidential signing statement and one is enclosed. However, the bill is a limited step in dealing with the broad problem of control of pesticides. Moreover, protest registration has only been used in a small number of cases. A strong case, therefore, cannot be made for a signing statement in the framework of the bill itself but it would provide an opportunity to note some progress within the Executive Branch and recognize the contribution of Senator Ribicoff.

(Signed) PHILLIP S. HUGHES

Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

Enclosures

EARadley:nn 5-6-64

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am happy to approve S. 1605, a bill to amend present procedures and law regarding the registration and labeling of pesticides.

This legislation closes a loophole in existing law which permits the sale, without warning to the purchaser, of a pesticide which has not been determined safe for public use. The President's Science Advisory Committee a year ago recommended correcting this situation, in connection with its general review of pesticides and their uses. Senator Ribicoff and the House and Senate Agriculture Committees have my gratitude for providing leadership in the passage of this needed legislation.

I should also call attention to the efforts of the late Miss Rachel Carson to alert the public to the potential dangers from the improper use of pesticides. We all regret her untimely death and are grateful for her efforts toward public education.

Enactment of this legislation is a step along the road in our effort to insure that those chemicals on which we depend so heavily for our food supply do not endanger the public health and fish and wildlife. In addition, within the Executive Branch we are improving the arrangements whereby the departments involved in registering pesticides interchange information and expertise. Labeling requirements have been tightened. Better machinery is being built for coordinating the government's activities of research, environmental monitoring, and public education. My 1965 budget provides for a substantial increase for research on pesticides and their hazards. Finally, the Office of Science and Technology is maintaining a constant watch on the adequacy of pesticide programs, drawing upon the views of leading experts from within and outside government.

These lines of action together with our intention to work closely with the Congress and with State and local governments should enable us to progress much closer to the goal of extracting the maximum benefits from pesticides with the minimum dangers to public health and to fish and wildlife.

206/EF

May 12 - 930 AM.

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Do you want to have the bill-signing of the Pesticide
Bill after the legislative breakfast tomorrow.
Ribbicoff and Rosenthal are the sponsors.

S.1605
EXECUTIVE
LE/AG 5-1
AG 5-1

Course Deshautes
asked about this
Call Deshautes 12:50 / 5/11/64

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JUN 13 1964
CENTRAL FILES

MEMORANDUM

May 11, 1964

TO: Ken O'Donnell

FROM: Claude Desautels

The following will attend the signing ceremony of the
Pesticides Bill tomorrow morning, May 12 at 9:30:

Senator Abraham A. Ribicoff (Conn.)
Senator Claiborne Pell (~~Conn.~~) *Rhode Island*
Senator James B. Pearson (Kans.)
Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (Minn.)
Senator Mike Mansfield (Mont.)

Speaker McCormack (Mass.)
Representative Benjamin S. Rosenthal (N.Y.)
Representative Harold Cooley (N.C.)
Representative Carl Albert (Okla.)
Representative Harlan Hagen (Calif.)

Honorable Orville L. Freeman - Secretary of Agriculture
Dr. Nyle Brady - Director, Research, Department of Agriculture
Dr. Byron Shaw - Administrator, Agriculture Research Service

(The following were invited but were unable to attend):

Senator Allen Ellender (La.)
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Representative Paul Jones (Mo.)
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