



# for the people

**MEMBERS:**

Yvonne B. Burke, Calif.  
Shirley Chisholm, N.Y.

William Clay, Mo.  
Cardiss Collins, Ill.  
John Conyers, Mich.

Ronald Dellums, Calif.  
Charles Diggs, Mich.  
Walter Fauntroy, D.C.  
Harold Ford, Tenn.

Augustus Hawkins, Calif.  
Barbara Jordan, Texas  
Ralph Metcalfe, Ill.  
Parren Mitchell, Md.

Robert N. C. Nix, Pa.  
Charles Rangel, N.Y.  
Louis Stokes, Ohio  
Andrew Young, Ga.

## Full Employment Hearing a Success: Caucus Plans Follow-Up

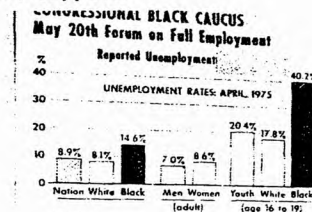
The May 20th Ad Hoc Hearings on Full Employment, sponsored by the Congressional Black Caucus and the Joint Center for Political Studies, brought together diverse interest groups, members of the press, Administration officials and Members of Congress in order to assess the impact and cost of spiraling unemployment and to examine strategies for achieving full employment. Over three-hundred invited participants attended the hearing and segments of the full day of proceedings were broadcast live by National Public Radio.

Congressman Charles B. Rangel, chairman of the Caucus, noted that, "While the needs of the black community are our primary concern—blacks and other minorities have been the most injured victims of high unemployment and our weak economy—full employment is an issue that goes beyond racial considerations. It is an issue that affects all citizens and raises fundamental questions about economic policy and national priorities."

If current trends continue, by mid-1976, some eight to ten million unemployed workers will have little reason and even less resources to participate in the nation's Bicentennial Celebration. The Spirit of '76 may be considerably dampened by the specter of joblessness—reported at nearly 15 percent for black and other minorities and 9.2 percent for the nation in May, 1975. The full day of hearing proceedings included opening statements by Representatives Charles B. Rangel and Yvonne Burke, chairman and vice chairperson of the Caucus; Eddie Williams, President of the Joint Center for Political Studies; Representatives Ronald V. Dellums and Louis Stokes; Dr. Bernard Anderson, the Wharton School University of Pennsylvania.

Carl Albert (D-Okla.), Speaker of the House, in his opening statement at the hearing observed that:

"The cost of unemployment in human suffering and in societal breakdown is staggeringly high. And anything those of you meeting here today can do to counter this serious problem will have my full support."



Depicted above at the May 20th Hearing (from left to right) are Mr. Eddie Williams, President of the Joint Center for Political Studies; Mr. Thadd Garrett, Special Assistant to the Vice President and former chief assistant and political advisor to Rep. Shirley Chisholm; Representatives Chisholm and Charles B. Rangel; Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller.

House and Senate Members, who, along with Caucus members, participated as hearing panelists, observers, or submitted supportive statements and testimony included: Representatives Benjamin A. Gilman (R-NY), Richard L. Ottinger (D-NY), Edward I. Koch (D-NY), Frederick Richmond (D-NY), Millicent Fenwick (R-NH), Phillip Burton (D-Calif), Geogre H. Mahon (D-Tex), John B. Anderson (R-Ill); Senators Edward Brooke (R-Mass), Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn), Hugh Scott (R-Pa), Harrison Williams (D-NJ), and Phillip Hart (D-Mich).

The morning hearing panel, co-chaired by Representatives John Conyers and Parren Mitchell, focused on **The Case For Full Employment**. Witnesses included Senator Hubert Humphrey, Chairman of the Joint Economic Committee; Professor

Bertram Gross, Hunter College; Representative Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif), principal sponsor and author of the Equal Opportunity and Full Employment Act—HR 50; Senator Edward Brooke; William Lucy, Secretary/Treasurer, American

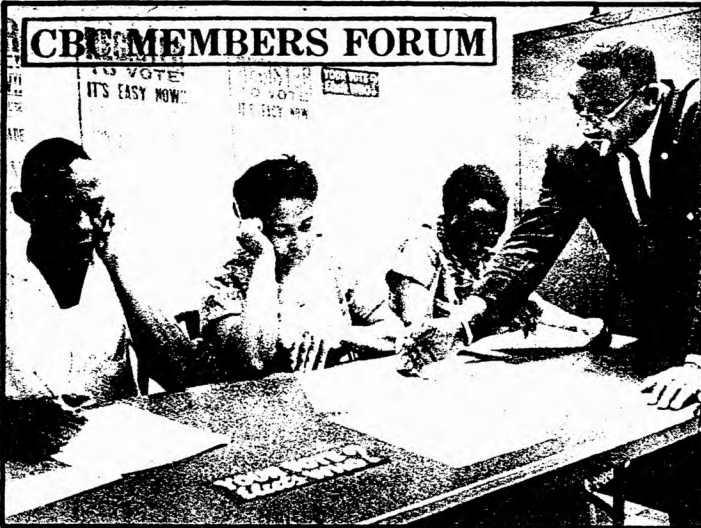
Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; John Gunther, Executive Director of the U.S. Conference of Mayors; Ms. Lois Parke, Councilwoman, Newcastle County, Delaware testifying on behalf of the National Association of Counties. Representatives Barbara Jordan and William Clay provided summary statements on the morning session.

Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller, in a luncheon address at the hearing, stated that:

**"I pledge myself to work with the Congressional Black Caucus in the pursuit of increased employment opportunities for all Americans. For the only real weapons that either low or moderate income families have against inflation or recession are jobs."**

*(Continued on Page 8)*

## CBI MEMBERS FORUM



# The Voting Rights Act: Toward Full Participation in the Political Process

by Rep. Barbara Jordan (D-Tex.)

The House of Representatives recently passed H.R. 6219, extending



Rep. Jordan

and expanding the Voting Rights Act of 1965. This legislation is among the most significant civil rights bills enacted in the 1960's and epitomizes the black

struggle for equality. Prior to the enactment of the Voting Rights Act, black people in the South were disfranchised and their path to the ballot box was blocked by unnecessary tests, poll taxes and sheer terrorism. Incredible gerrymanders were devised to nullify the strength of large black populations. Even when, on occasion, the maze of voting restrictions were successfully hurdled, there was still no assurance that the votes cast by blacks would be counted.

The Voting Rights Act has opened registration for eligible blacks and has, in part, contributed to a precipitous increase in the number of Black Elected Officials—now in excess of 3500. This law has increased the possibility of free and equal participation by blacks, as voters, in the political process. A few electoral victories, however, should not mask reality: the Voting Rights Act may have overcome blatant discriminatory practices; it has yet to overcome subtle discriminatory practices. A large number of black people in the South and North continue to be excluded from meaningful participation in democratic institutions. The Voting Rights Act, now in the Senate, would automatically expire in August unless the full Congress votes to extend its life. The gains in black political

representation over the last ten years proves that this legislation works.

The Voting Rights Act empowers the U.S. Attorney General to send examiners and federal registrars into covered jurisdictions, principally in the South, to protect the rights of black citizens to register and to vote. In addition, covered jurisdictions must submit to the U.S. Attorney General proposed changes in voting laws for agreement. If the changes are found to be discriminatory, they are not permitted to take effect. The Act is strong medicine and the recently passed House version extends coverage to the Spanish speaking and other minority groups: strong medicine indeed, but when public officials continually trample the constitutional rights of citizens, the relief must fit the transgression.

My first attempts to become a member of the Texas House of Representatives were thwarted by the same type of discriminatory voting practices now forbidden in the Voting Rights Act. In 1962, when I first ran for the Texas House, Harris County (Houston) was not divided into single member districts. I had to run at large — against all other candidates. I lost then and again in 1964. In 1966 the Texas legislature was forced to reapportion itself. The Supreme Court ruled that the 'one person-one vote' rule of *Baker v. Carr* applied to state legislative districts. The reapportionment created a new, single-member State Senatorial District in which I lived. I ran and won. Without the Supreme Court ruling, I would have lost again.

The same reapportionment which created single member districts in Harris County created at-large districts in Bexar County (San Antonio) and Dallas

County (Dallas) and these were maintained through 1972. Had the Voting Rights Act of 1965 applied to Texas the state would have had to submit the 1966 and 1972 reapportionments to the Attorney General and these would have likely been found discriminatory. It was not until 1973 that the United States Supreme Court once again intervened. It held that at-large elections in Bexar and Dallas counties had a discriminatory effect on blacks and browns.

The same discriminatory practices which moved the congress to pass the Voting Rights Act in 1965, renew it in 1970 and consider its extension in 1975, are practiced in Texas today.

In 1965, the Congress heard of instances in which citizens were denied the right to register, and the right to vote once registered. Today in Texas duly registered citizens have been denied absentee ballots, even though their names appeared on the registration rolls. In one particular town, the city officials refused to honor absentee ballot applications filed by Spanish surnamed voters for a school board election which occurred last April, 1975.

To provide a remedy for many of the above-cited discriminatory voting practices perpetrated upon black and Mexican-Americans, I introduced legislation which would extend the Act for 10 years and expand it to cover the Southwest. My bill was incorporated into H.R. 6219 as Titles II and III and would extend to minorities residing in the newly covered jurisdictions the same special attention to their voting rights now offered blacks in the South.

We are encouraged by the action of the House and Senate in extending and expanding this most vital piece of civil rights legislation. Discriminatory voting  
*Continued on next page*

## Voting Rights Act

(Continued from Page 2)

practices are a menace to every prospect of freedom and democracy in the United States. Now that the legislation has been renewed, private citizens and public officials must redouble their efforts to use it to protect the precious right to vote.

## Caucus Aids Mound Bayou Hospital

Congressional Black Caucus members played a significant role in saving the Mound Bayou Community Hospital — a major health care resource serving medically indigent blacks in a four-county area of the Mississippi Delta region. In May 1975, representatives of the Mound Bayou Community Hospital requested Caucus assistance in securing continued funding support for the facility from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW). Federal support for this black-controlled hospital would have expired June 30, 1975 and HEW had made no commitments to continue funding for another year.

The hospital, licensed by the Mississippi Health Authorities in 1974, was originally founded over 30 years ago. It has an admirable history of service to the 100,000 or so poor black and white residents of the Delta. Approximately 80 percent of the hospital's patients and 92 percent of those served by a related health center have neither adequate personal funds nor health insurance to pay their medical bills. In the 1960's, Mound Bayou Hospital was one of the few health facilities in Mississippi open to Freedom Marchers.

Representatives Charles B. Rangel and Andrew Young led the Caucus effort to aid the hospital and personally intervened through a series of meetings and correspondence with HEW officials. In a letter to Caucus chairman Rangel, Mr. Howard Jessamy, Administrator of the hospital, thanked the Caucus stating that, "Because of your efforts, we have been able to secure a grant of \$272,000 for our next grant year. Even though the amount is substantially less than last year's grant of \$734,000, and a sizeable staff reduction is imminent, we will be able to continue to carry on some health services to patients in the four-county area we serve."

## Caucus Assesses 94th Congress

The Congressional Black Caucus on June 25th, after six months of vigorous effort in the 94th Congress on its Legislative Agenda, presented an assessment of the overall performance of Congress thus far. Caucus members found the Congress generally lacking in responsiveness to urgent human needs.

The Caucus assessment was most critical of Congress' failure to override Presidential vetoes of key domestic legislation such as the Emergency Employment Appropriations Bill and Emergency Housing Bill. Representative Charles B. Rangel noted that, "The emergency jobs bill would have been a small step toward full employment and provided for some 900,000 jobs. The housing bill addressed our critical housing needs and would have provided at least 500,000 jobs. This Administration refuses to effectively address the problem facing 8.5 to 10 million jobless workers today."

Shortly after the failure by the House to override the emergency jobs bill veto, the Black Caucus released an analysis showing that over one-third of the Representatives voting against an override had either high unemployment and/or large minority and poor constituencies in their districts. The Caucus will continue such vote analyses and will explore other strategies for ensuring that Representatives are aware and responsive to the priorities of poor and minority voters.

At a press conference, a special staff report on the progress of the Caucus Legislative Agenda was released. The report covered the range of Caucus priorities including full employment, voting rights, tax reform, health care,

housing, education reductions in military spending, voting representation for the District of Columbia, gun control, Rhodesian Chrome and general revenue sharing. The **Legislative Agenda Progress Report** and the **Six-Month Overview** of Caucus activity are available from the Congressional Black Caucus office upon request.

Full employment, tax reform and health care are among the top legislative goals of the Caucus during the second session of the 94th Congress. In addition, the Caucus will be actively involved in reviewing the general revenue sharing program and will push for passage of a comprehensive postcard voter registration bill.

The Caucus plans a continued aggressive legislative role in the 1976 Bicentennial election year. Presidential candidates will be called upon to respond to issues and legislative priorities affecting poor and minority citizens and the varied areas of the Caucus Agenda. The Caucus' Fifth Annual Dinner Weekend (September 26-27) will bring together Black and other organizational leaders to discuss many of these issues.

On Friday, September 26th, the day before the Annual Dinner, the Caucus along with the Joint Center for Political Studies will hold a day-long legislative workshop in which a plan for developing a broader black national legislative agenda will be considered. This broader agenda will refine and expand the Caucus' current Legislative Agenda and will incorporate the input, expertise and resources of black and non-black citizens traditionally shortchanged in the formation of national policy.

## PRESS RECEPTION ON ANNUAL DINNER PLANS



Photo by Jim Wells

On June 25th, a press reception, sponsored by **Essence Magazine**, was held to announce plans for the Caucus Fifth Annual Dinner Weekend. Three-hundred invited guests attended. Entertainer Johnny Nash (Columbia Records) participated in the reception, performing the song "We Can See Clearly Now What Must Be Done" — words written especially for the Congressional Black Caucus. Pictured above, from left to right, are Johnny Nash, Rep. Walter Fauntroy, chairman of the Fifth Annual Dinner Weekend, and Rep. Barbara Jordan.

# Minority Constituents and the Congress

Blacks and other minorities have been historically under-represented in this nation's political system. Every major step toward political equity by these citizens has been the result of legal action, mass protests and courage in the face of violence. However, translating the hard-won ballot into positive national policies that reflect the concerns of poor and minority constituents requires a continued vigilance and activism.

The Congressional Black Caucus believes that minority constituents must aggressively make full use of political structures. Far too few citizens—particularly the poor, blacks and other minorities—convey to their Senators and Representatives their views on important issues before the Congress. Letters, telegrams and personal calls are key instruments for persuading a Member of Congress to adopt positions advocated by constituents in his or her district.

Of course, many factors influence a Member's final vote—interest group positions and a Member's own political convictions rank high among these. Members, however, know that they must listen to the voters, even during a non-election year. Voters are becoming more alert in monitoring the voting records of their elected officials.

There are a number of general rules to follow in communicating with Representatives and Senators:

1. When writing about legislation, refer to the accurate title and number of the bill. If you do not have this information, refer to the specific issue involved.

2. Explain why you are personally advocating a particular position on the bill or issue. Be brief, but persuasive. Let the Member know you have sound reasons for your opinion. If you belong to an organization which has taken a position or action on the issue, refer to that.

3. Mention local facts or conditions which the bill might help. For example, if it is an education bill, mention something briefly about the status of schools in your neighborhood. Tell the Member why the bill will help or hurt the people he or she represents.

4. If you know of amendments which you support or oppose, mention them directly. Often, the most important vote on a piece of legislation is on an amendment that would significantly add to or detract from its impact on final passage. However, it is often difficult to know in advance what amendments will be introduced.

5. Solicit some response from the Congressperson or his/her position on the issue or legislation in question. Inquire about whether you can count on his/her support of your position.

6. Recruit the active support of other groups and individuals whose positions are similar to yours. If each person who is concerned about an issue gets five or ten friends to write at the same time, or gets organizations to endorse a position, the Representative is likely to be more responsive.

7. Finally, be direct, persuasive and courteous. Threats are frequently self-defeating. Say what you know to be true.

Letters and telegrams should be addressed as follows:

**To Representatives:**

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_

**To Senators:**

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
U.S. Senate  
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Information on legislation in Congress can be obtained from newspapers, radio and T.V., from newsletters of various public interest organizations (e.g., National Urban League, NAACP, Joint Center for Political Studies, League of Women Voters, Common Cause), and **For The People**. Start your communication early, when a bill has just been introduced and when committees and subcommittees are holding hearings. Also present views just before a bill reaches the House or Senate floor for vote.

## Taxation Demands Representation

RECORD 120 HOUSE/SENATE CO-SPONSORS SUPPORT H.J. RES. 280

"Taxation demands representation" is the rallying cry of Representative Walter E. Fauntroy's (D-D.C.) drive to obtain passage of a Constitutional amendment granting the District of Columbia full voting representation in the House and Senate. At present, Mr. Fauntroy, as a Delegate to the House, can only vote in committee.

Elected to the Congress in 1971, as the District's first non-voting Delegate in one-hundred years, Congressman Fauntroy immediately orchestrated a local and national movement to win "home rule" for citizens of the Nation's Capital. Last year, the 93rd Congress enacted a Home Rule Bill granting the

citizens of the District the right to elect a Mayor and City Council for the first time in 104 years. Representative Fauntroy has now turned his attention to winning for himself and the District of Columbia full voting rights on the House and Senate Floor.

The drive began in earnest on May 6, 1975, when Fauntroy and six powerful House and Senate allies, including Senators Kennedy and Brooke held a news conference.

Speaking at the news conference, Fauntroy issued this call for action: "We have gathered here today to launch a drive in this Bicentennial Congress to mend the crack in the Liberty Bell. The Liberty Bell in Philadelphia was molded

to proclaim an end to the tyranny of taxation without representation. But for nearly 200 years of our nation's history, there has been a crack in the Liberty Bell, an imperfection that seriously mars our proclamations of democracy. Through that crack have fallen three quarters of a million American who pay nearly a billion dollars in Federal taxes each year, but who, unlike all other taxpayers in our country, have no vote in the United States Congress. Thus, 200 years after the founding of our Republic, the citizens of the District of Columbia still endure a condition as obnoxious to democracy in 1976 as it was in 1776."

Fauntroy has observed that "As the District's Non-Voting Delegate in the Congress, I represent more people than

*(Continued on Page 8)*

## Community Services Administration Funds Increased

House amendments to the Labor-HEW Appropriations bill that provide increased support for Community Services Administration (formerly OEO) programs. These amendments provided some \$75.7 million above the level of support set in the House Appropriations Committee bill. A portion of the additional funds, \$35 million, are earmarked for fiscal year 1976 community action programs and would maintain the fiscal year 1975 funding levels for local initiative programs at \$330 million.

The remaining \$40.7 million in increased funds will support such programs as senior citizen opportunities and services, research and demonstration, community nutrition and community economic development. With the support of the other Caucus members, Repre-

sentatives Burke and Hawkins led the push for increased funding of the Community Services Administration. They actively solicited the support of diverse groups within the Congress, such as the Congressional Rural Caucus, progressive Republicans and others. Lobbying efforts were assisted by community action program directors and participants. Several thousand community action agency supporters came to Washington, D.C. on June 24th to urge adequate funding of their programs.

The entire appropriation for Labor-HEW programs (including funds for independent agencies in education, health and labor) may be vetoed by the President. The bill was passed by a wide margin vote of 368 to 39; however, a veto override vote would likely be close.

On June 25, Representatives Yvonne Burke (D-Calif) and Augustus F. Hawkins (D-Calif) successfully pressed through the

## Conyers Sees Gun Control as First Priority in Reducing Black-on-Black Homicides

Representative John Conyers, chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime feels that stricter Federal handgun laws are required to halt the spiraling rate of homicides committed by blacks against other blacks. Conyers noted that, "According to the FBI Uniform Crime Reports, the largest number of handgun homicide victims and assailants fall into the 15-30 age bracket, and a disproportionate number on both sides are Black. Studies conducted by criminal justice experts in every city the Subcommittee has visited bear this out. For example, the profile for attacker and victim in homicides committed in Detroit during the past 3 years is nearly identical; in most cases, both were Black males between the ages of 19 and 30, poorly educated; under- or unemployed; under the influence of alcohol or drugs; at least acquainted, and involved in an altercation over money, sex, liquor or intrafamily problems at the time of the incident."

"The incidence of handgun use in these cases leads any reasonable student of the problem to only one conclusion," Conyers continued. In 1973, the FBI recorded 17,123 murders; of those, 54 per cent were committed with handguns, and, of those, 62 per cent occurred within the family or between acquaintances. The figures fluctuate slightly according to locality but, in every case we have studied, between 60-76 per cent of all homicides take place under identical circumstances. The numbers make questionable, the contention of opponents of stricter handgun regulation that premeditated or crime-related murders are the principal problem.

The fact is that, society-wide, access to an easily-obtainable handgun, usually purchased out of fear of armed attack, is the critical factor in the majority of homicides. Obviously, in the Black community—where crime and the fear of it is more prevalent—the problem is exacerbated.

Increasing crime and the failure of law enforcement tend to legitimize such fears, Conyers said, but acquisition of handguns is no practical alternative. "Besides the fact that most handguns used in casual homicides were originally purchased for self-defense," he said, "there is absolutely no

evidence that possession of handguns deters crime."

FBI records indicate that armed private citizens were successful in warding off attack or break-ins in less than 2 per cent of reported cases. The probability is much higher that the victim will be wounded or killed by his assailant by reaching for his gun.



"Nineteen days of hearings, involving more than 140 witnesses in all parts of the country have led me to believe that the 94th Congress has an affirmative duty to put an end to our domestic arms race," the Crime Subcommittee Chairman concluded. "More than 2.5 million handguns will find their way into private hands this year, and the tragedy they will be responsible for will be intolerable. Our record clearly supports the need for immediate Federal legislation which would prohibit the importation and domestic assembly and manufacture of cheap handguns and handgun parts, drastically reduce the number of Federally-licensed firearms dealers, make it more difficult to acquire such a license, and provide for more efficient record-keeping and enforcement mechanisms.

Such action would only close loopholes in existing law, and would only partially turn off the taps as far as new production and distribution are concerned. Gun Control is a key item on the Caucus Legislative Agenda. Representatives Ronald Dellums, Ralph Metcalfe, Walter Fauntroy and Robert N.C. Nix have also introduced bills on firearms control.

**Rep. Parren Mitchell**, commenting on the impact of Congress' failure to override the President's vetoes noted that, "The American people have grown sick and tired of elected representatives who serve their interests in a sick and tired manner. The need for jobs and housing is undeniable in this period of economic crisis and public despair. Yet in recent weeks the President has vetoed two major legislative packages, The Emergency Employment Appropriations Bill and the Emergency Housing Bill, designed to address urgent human needs. The actions of the President and his supporters in Congress are indicative of the insensitivity of a ruling elite. Public frustration has reached an all time high. The Administration and this Congress will be held accountable."

**Rep. Charles Rangel**, commenting on the involvement of Caucus members in a recent study mission to Liberia, noted that "The Mission (June 28th to July 2nd) was sponsored by the Phelps-Stokes Fund and enabled Caucus members to meet with government and educational leaders throughout Liberia. It is part of the Caucus' ongoing efforts to strengthen ties between African nations and black Americans, to push for more knowledgeable, supportive U.S. policies toward Africa."

The delegation to Liberia included Representatives Ralph Metcalfe, William Clay and Rangel. Ms. Barbara Williams, Executive Director of the Caucus, her Administrative Assistant Ms. Beryl Bridges and Mr. George Dalley, Administrative Assistant to Congressman Rangel also took part in the mission. Mr. Franklin Williams, President of the Phelps-Stokes Fund and former Ambassador to Ghana, accompanied the delegation.

On July 2nd, the delegation departed Monrovia, Liberia for Dakar, Senegal and a series of informal meetings with state dignitaries and U.S. officials in that country. In Senegal, they joined Representatives Charles C. Diggs and Cardiss Collins, who had just returned from the June 25th Mozambique Independence

# CAUCUS NOTES

Celebration and a tour of other African countries. The Caucus has initiated a series of follow-up meetings on the visits to Liberia and Senegal with State Department officials. A more definitive report on the visits and follow-up will be made available upon request.

**Rep. Charles C. Diggs, Jr.**, in his continuing concern about U.S. corporate investments in South Africa, joined eighteen colleagues in the House in forwarding an open letter to IBM on its selling, leasing and servicing of computers to South Africa. The letter stated in part, "We, the undersigned Members of Congress, are deeply concerned about the role of the International Business Machines (IBM) in helping to maintain and, indeed, perfect, South Africa's repressive system of apartheid. We are aware of the recent shareholders' resolution, co-filed by a number of church organizations holding over 54,000 shares of IBM stock, which requests that IBM cease selling, leasing or servicing computers and computer parts to the South African Government ... we would like to express our support of this resolution ... For the White minority South African regime, which represents less than 20 percent of the total population, to control the majority is not an easy task, but with the assistance of computers the apartheid system has been maintained and even expanded ..." Rep. Diggs has also issued a public statement in support of a stockholder resolution seeking a change in the policy of the Southern Company—the Company, a

U.S. business, has entered into a \$47 million contract to import 2½ million tons of coal from South Africa.

**Rep. Ralph Metcalfe** has introduced a resolution which calls for official U.S. endorsement of the recent Declaration of the Organization of African Unity on establishing majority rule in the Republic of South Africa and in Rhodesia. The resolution also calls for U.S. support of United Nations sanctions against Rhodesia and support of U.N. Security Council Resolution 366 which mandates the independence of Namibia. "It is imperative that we reappraise the present U.S. policy towards the volatile issues of freedom and equality in southern Africa, a policy too often marked by hypocrisy and insensitivity ... Americans in general, and we in the Congress, in particular, cannot afford to ignore the aspirations of an entire continent—a continent whose political and economic importance to America grows daily," said Metcalfe.

On May 30, Rep. Metcalfe requested the Chairmen of both House Judiciary Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee to investigate the reported use of revenue sharing funds for intelligence activities by police departments. A General Accounting Office report requested by Metcalfe revealed that between \$500,000 and \$800,000 in federal funds has been spent by the Chicago Police Department Intelligence Division (1972-1974) in its surveillance of thousands of Chicago-area residents.

**Rep. Ronald V. Dellums** has recently introduced the *Bureaucratic Accountability Act of 1975*, which proposes concrete steps to strengthen responsible and reliable government through amendments to the Administrative Procedures Act. The bill would insure that citizens receive accurate information on their rights and on the procedures of the bureaucracy. "Government lawlessness, the widespread bureaucratic practice of distorting, ignoring, and subverting the congressional mandates contained in legislation, is the greatest threat to meaningful self-government. I strongly feel the basic cause of this is the lack of mechanisms which would allow citizens some means of protection against officials in their day-to-day contact with the bureaucracy," said Dellums.

## RESOURCE NETWORK

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Congressional Dis. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK  
 Education , Housing ,  
 Health , Media , Africa ,  
 Labor/Jobs , Tax Reform ,  
 Affirmative Action , Day  
 Care , Business ,  
 Elected Officials .

Mail to Congressional Black Caucus, 306 House Annex,  
 Washington, D.C. 20515

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**VOTING RIGHTS**—The House on June 4, passed by a vote of 341-70, H.R. 6219 to extend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 for an additional ten years and to expand it to cover many Spanish-speaking and other minorities. The Caucus legislative support network was activated on this bill and many citizens and organizations across the country wrote to their Representatives and Senators supporting the Voting Rights Act. The Senate, on July 24, passed H.R. 6219 extending the Act for 7 years rather than 10 and the House has agreed to 7 years.

**ENERGY**—The House, on June 19, passed H.R. 6860, the Energy Conservation and Conversion Act. The bill provides for limitation of oil imports and penalties for automobiles with high fuel consumption. The Energy Conservation and Oil Policy Act (H.R. 7014), presently before the House, would stabilize domestic crude oil prices. This would stabilize domestic crude oil prices. This would counter the President's proposal to decontrol oil prices—a move that, according to estimates by the Joint Economic Committee, would result in an additional 760,000 unemployed and price increases of 5.4 percent.

**EMERGENCY HOUSING ACT**—H.R. 4485, a bill which would provide deferral of mortgage payments from economically strapped families, as well as authorizing three new subsidy programs for middle-income homebuyers was passed by Congress and vetoed by the President on June 24. After the House failed to override the veto, a compromise bill (H.R. 5398) was passed by the House and Senate and it was signed July 2nd by the President. It provides for loans up to \$250 per month for jobless homeowners unable to meet mortgage payments and would insure lenders against losses if they do not foreclose on overdue mortgages. It also contains \$10 billion for mortgage interest rate subsidies, as well as extension of the Section 315 urban rehabilitation loans program.

**HEALTH**—The House, on June 5, passed H.R. 4925, the Health Revenue Sharing Act, which extends five major health services programs as block grants through fiscal year 1977. The programs include health services formula grants to the states, family planning programs, community mental health centers for medically underserved areas. A similar bill

with higher funding levels was vetoed by the President last year. The Senate has passed legislation similar to H.R. 4925. On July 25, the President vetoed the health bill, a veto which Congress overrode.

## UPCOMING ACTIONS:

**EMPLOYMENT**—The House and Senate passed, but the President vetoed, the Emergency Employment Appropriations bill which would have provided about 900,000 public service, public works jobs. Immediately following the veto and failure to override, Congress passed and the President signed the summer jobs bill providing 840,000 jobs by local governments this summer. The program will be administered by the U.S. Department of Labor and jobs will be available through local and state manpower agencies. The jobs issue remains a key area for congressional action. The Hawkins-Humphrey Equal Opportunities and Full Employment Act (H.R. 50, S. 50), discussed in earlier issues of **For The People**, requires broad constituent support. Your views on this legislation should be conveyed to Representatives and Senators.

The subcommittee on Manpower, Compensation and Health and Safety of the House Education and Labor Committee is holding hearings on extension of Title VI of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973 (CETA). Title VI provided an additional 100,000 public service jobs last year.

**TAX REFORM**—The House Ways and Means Committee has begun hearings on major tax reform legislation. The Congressional Black Caucus will focus on the impact of 'tax expenditures', loopholes and waivers and tax write-offs that, in fact, constitute a form of government subsidy. Persons knowledgeable in this field are encouraged to contact the Caucus office and the Ways and Means Committee. Full House action will probably take place in October or November. The Caucus Legislative Agenda called for reforms such as the enactment of an effective minimum tax, restructuring of capital gains provisions, elimination of tax-loss farming provisions that benefit agribusiness, and elimination of tax incentives for foreign investments. Earlier this year, the Congress eliminated most of the oil depletion allowance through the Tax Reduction Act.

**VOTING REPRESENTATION FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**—Hearings have begun before the Civil and Constitutional Rights Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee on a bill introduced by Congressman Walter Fauntroy (D-D.C.) which would give the District of Columbia two Senators and two Representatives—all with full voting status.

**EDUCATION**—Both the Higher Education Bill and the Vocational Education Bill are in the hearing stage. The Higher Education bill is before the Post-secondary Education Subcommittee and the Vocational Education bill is before the Elementary, Secondary and Vocational Education Subcommittee—subcommittees of the House Education and Labor Committee.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING BIRTHDAY BILL**—Hearings will be held shortly on legislation which would designate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as a national holiday. Hearings will be before the Census and Population Subcommittee of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee. Representative John Conyers (D-Mich.) and Robert N.C. Nix (D-Pa.) have each introduced bills for this purpose.

**GENERAL REVENUE SHARING**—Oversight hearings continue before various congressional committees on general revenue sharing. These precede legislative hearings scheduled this Fall. Most recently, the Joint Economic Committee heard testimony from private citizens and public officials on general revenue sharing. The House Government Operations Committee Intergovernmental Relations Subcommittee is holding oversight hearings on general revenue sharing during July. The Administration has introduced its bill (H.R. 8244) to extend the present program, with some minor changes, for an additional 5 3/4 years.

**FLEXIBLE WORKING HOURS**—A bill (S. 792) to provide part-time work within the federal government has been approved by the Senate and House subcommittees. Hearings before the Manpower and Civil Service subcommittee of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee on this and similar bills, including one introduced by Representative Yvonne Burke (H.R. 3924), are expected in July.

## Voting Representation

(Continued from Page 4)

any single Member of the House of Representatives, and indeed, more people than are represented by twenty Senators.

The vehicle that Delegate Fauntroy plans to use to "mend the crack in the Liberty Bell" is House Joint Resolution 280, (H.J. Res. 280), a bill he introduced after rounding up some 120 co-sponsors in both the House and Senate and from both the Republican and Democratic sides of the aisle.

The resolution simply calls for an amendment to the Constitution that would permit the District of Columbia to elect two Senators and as many Representatives as it would be entitled if it were a state.

Delegate Fauntroy recently sent letters to more than 800 Black elected officials around the country urging them to contact their Representative concerning H.J. Res. 280. This marks the third time that Delegate Fauntroy has introduced legislation seeking a vote on the House Floor. The Rules Committee, which has blocked the legislation in the past, has new leader-



Congressman Walter Fauntroy is joined by (left to right) Congressman Gil Gude (R-Md.), Senators Edward Brooke (R-Mass.), Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), Birch Bayh (D-Ind.) and Congressman Don Edwards (D-Calif.) in announcing drive to obtain full voting rights for the District.

ship, including its first Black Member, Representative Andrew Young. "The impetus of a measure actually passed by the House will provide momentum in the Senate that we never had before,"

Fauntroy noted.

Further inquiries on H.J. Res. 280 may be directed to Representative Fauntroy, 326 Cannon House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515.

## CONGRESSIONAL RECESS

Congress will be in Recess from August 1 to September 3, 1975.

For The People will resume Publication in mid-September.

## Full Employment

Continued from front page

Vice President Rockefeller was introduced by Caucus member Representative Shirley Chisholm (D-NY). The Caucus took note of the Vice President's pledge of a continuing open line of communication with his office on full employment and other issues in the Caucus Legislative Agenda. Plans to follow-up on commitments of support by various hearing participants are underway.

The afternoon hearing panel, chaired by Representative Yvonne Burke and Walter Fauntroy, examined the **Social Costs of Unemployment** and witnesses included: Patrick Murphy, President of the Police Foundation; Renault Robinson, Executive Director of Chicago's Afro-American Patrolman's League; Ms. Eleanor Holmes Norton, New York Human Rights Commissioner; Clarence Mitchell, Director of the NAACP, Washington Bureau; Dr. James P. Comer, Associate Professor Yale University and Child Study Center; Ms. Carole Foreman, Executive Director, Consumer Federation of America; John Hampton, Executive Director, National Tenants Organization, Representative

Ralph Metcalfe summarized the afternoon proceedings.

The Ad Hoc Hearing provided the major stimulus for the Caucus' announcement of a nationwide campaign to gather support for passage of full employment legislation by the 94th Congress. Speaking for the Caucus, Representative Augustus Hawkins noted that:

**The caucus will be approaching broad sectors of the population to solicit their input in further development of full employment legislation."**

The Equal Opportunity and Full Employment Act (HR. 50), a top priority in the Caucus Legislative Agenda, has some 108 co-sponsors and is viewed as a major legislative initiative to eliminate substandard wages, poverty and joblessness. The Caucus' support for full employment campaign currently includes three major components:

1. A national public information and public education effort.
2. An in-depth review and assessment of the positions of members of Congress on the passage of full employment legislation.
3. A concerted effort to initiate Senate hearings on full employment.

Organizations and individuals interested in assisting the Caucus' full employment effort should direct all inquiries and supportive materials to **Jobs for All**, Congressional Black Caucus, 306 House Annex, Washington, D.C. 20515. Details on this effort will be reported in forthcoming issues of **For The People**. Excerpts of statements submitted by various witnesses are available upon request.

## CAUCUS REPRINTS

Available reprints of Caucus releases include:

- The Congressional Black Caucus: A Six Month Overview.
- Caucus Assesses 94th Congress: First Session.
- Caucus Position on Full Employment.
- Caucus Members Committee and Subcommittee Assignments.
- Analysis of Emergency Employment Appropriations Bill Veto Override Vote.
- Caucus Position on Vietnamese Refugees.
- Caucus Legislative Agenda.
- For the People, Vol. 1, Number 1, 2, 3.
- Excerpts of Witness Statements, Full Employment Ad Hoc Hearing.

Forward requests for reprints to Congressional Black Caucus, 306 House Annex Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515.

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