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"THE NEW FRONTIER IN CONGRESS"

Address by
SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

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It is a pleasure to be
with you this evening to discuss
the work of Congress on the
Administration's legislative
program. I want you to know
first that I am sincerely
proud of the initial record of

this 87th Congress. I am especially proud to be part of the leadership in the Senate to transform the New Frontier's program into action. It is both a great responsibility and a great honor to serve as the Assistant Majority Leader in the Senate of the United States.

∠ This is my thirteenth year in Congress. Without any hesitancy, I say that the 87th Congress is establishing the best and most constructive

record of accomplishment of any in which I have served. I believe that by the time the 87th Congress adjourns next year, we will have seen the greatest outpouring of constructive, responsible legislation enacted by any Congress since the days of the New Deal in the early Thirties.

Today we have an Administration and a Congressional majority which share common goals and a common philosophy

of government. This is an exciting time in Washington. There are new faces and new ideas. There is a spirit to move forward to respond to the challenges facing America. There is a new determination to work and build.

Our work has been constant and successful since the change of Administrations last January. Let me present now the details of our record.

As the 87th Congress convened, prompt attention was

given to bolster the economy.

We were in a recession

affecting millions of American
workers and their families.

The economy needed a boost

and the Congress moved promptly

in that direction. The first

(#1) bill that we passed was the

Area Redevelopment Act, to

provide assistance to

economically distressed areas

in the form of loans and

grants for construction of

industrial plants and public

facilities.

Area Redevelopment

min wage

To help raise the living standards of those Americans at the bottom of the economic ladder, the Congress increased the minimum wage from \$1 to \$1.25 an hour, and extended coverage to 3.6 million additional workers in the retail and service trades.

✓ This was the first major extension of coverage since the first minimum wage legisla-
tion in the 30's.

Earlier this year, hundreds of thousands of jobless workers

unemployment comp - 7 -

had exhausted their unemployment compensation benefit payments.

The Congress promptly enacted legislation to advance funds to the states to extend unemployment benefits up to an additional 13 weeks, thus providing the unemployed worker with benefits up to a total of 39 weeks. We took the same action for unemployed railroad workers under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act.

To help ease the critical

financial stress of so many
of our elderly citizens, the
Congress increased minimum
old age insurance benefits,
liberalized the disability
provision of the act, and
provided that men may retire
at reduced benefits at the
age of 62. We also increased
for one year the public
assistance payments for old
age assistance, aid to the
blind, and aid to the permanently
and totally disabled.

To keep our federal

interstate highway building
program on schedule -- so
that this 41,000 mile program
will be completed in 13 years
as originally planned -- the
Congress increased the federal
government's share from \$25
billion to \$37 billion. This
has provided a tremendous
boost to the economy and
hastens the day when we will
have a magnificent highway
program completed. / As an
aside, I should also note
that we scored an important
victory in extending for an
additional two years the

How

"incentive bonus" for states
to enter into agreements for
control of billboard advertising
along the Interstate Highways.

Billboard

Perhaps the greatest
legislative triumph in the
economic area was the passage
of the comprehensive housing
act which authorized \$4.9
billion in new funds. This
act provides for a new two-
year experimental plan of
small down payment, 35 year
loans for moderate-income,
single-family housing. The

Housing

act authorizes \$75 million
to assist communities to pro-
vide mass-transportation
systems. It liberalizes FHA
regular home mortgage terms
by raising the maximum mortgaged
maturity for new homes from
30 to 35 years. It authorizes
an additional \$2 billion in
federal capital grants for
urban renewal projects. It
raises by \$500 million the
community facilities loan
fund for local water, gas and
sewage plant improvements.

Transportation

It increases by \$200 million the authorization for the farm housing program. It authorizes \$50 million in federal grants to states and local communities to pay up to 30 per cent of the costs of acquisition of land in and around urban areas to create "open space" areas for recreational conservation, scenic and historic purposes. It increases the federal revolving fund for low-interest, long-term loans to

colleges, universities and hospitals for construction of housing. It increases by \$75 million the revolving fund to make direct loans below the market rate to non-profit groups for construction of housing for the elderly.

The Congress also extended the direct and the guaranteed home loan program for World War II and Korean veterans, and authorized an additional \$1.2 billion for

Vets Housing

the direct loan program through fiscal 1967 to aid communities in their efforts to construct water sewage treatment plants. This is intended to assure an adequate supply of clean water, the Congress has authorized an additional \$235 million in federal grants.

Pollution
Control

Another important achievement was the passage of legislation amending the Social Security Act to permit states to use matching federal

grants to aid children of the
needy and unemployed.

Previously, the law provided
that payments could be made
to children only when the
family had been broken up or
the father had deserted. The
father could have been out of
work through no fault of his
own and his family without
money, but the state still
couldn't make use of any
federal funds for the children
of that family.

Major attention is being

aid
to
children

focused, of course, on the
federal aid to education bill.

Red
Educ

As you know, the Senate has
already passed a measure
providing \$2.5 billion in
grants over a three-year
period to the states for school
construction and teacher sala-
ries at the grade and high
school level. Similar
legislation has already been
approved by the House Education
and Labor Committee, but has
yet not been cleared by the
House Rules Committee. Some

observers feel that the House will never get a chance to act on an aid to education bill, but I am not that pessimistic. I think that we are going to get an aid to education bill passed by the House and enacted into law. I am hopeful that we will be able to do it before this session of the Congress adjourns.

It would be tragic if this bill was scuttled. The need for such a program is apparent.

Edus
Passed

✓ We need more schools. We need better paid and better trained teachers. Most of our local communities have reached the point where it is almost impossible for them to get increased funds for their school problems. They need these funds desperately. The federal government alone has a broad enough tax base to ^{such} provide/funds. This legislation is not an attempt to take over control of the schools. As a matter of fact, the

legislation which we passed
in the Senate specifically
prohibits any federal
interference in control of
administration of schools.

*Local
Administ*

The school programs will be
run as they are now, by the
counties and by the states
and by their duly constituted
educational boards.

Another item which is of
major concern to the people --
and judging from my mail
perhaps this item is one in
which there is the greatest

interest of all -- is medical
care for the aged. For many
years I have had a deep
interest in this subject and
have pressed for adoption of
legislation to help alleviate
the insecurity and anxiety of
so many of our older citizens.
They simply do not have the
funds to meet the heavy costs
of unexpected illness in their
old age. I wish that you
could read the letters which
I receive every day from older
citizens pleading for action

Med Care
for Elderly

to pass a bill for medical care under Social Security.

It appears now that no action will be taken in the House of Representatives, where all such measures involving taxes must originate, to consider this legislation this year. The timetable appears to be that it will be brought up in the second session of the 87th Congress in 1962. I feel confident that this Congress will pass the medical care bill before we adjourn in 1962.

2 Session
88742
for
Medicare

It won't be easy. The organized opposition to this plan is tremendous and well-financed. But I am convinced that we will succeed.

 / To ease the present work load and over-crowded court calendars, the Congress has created an additional 73 United States District and Circuit Court judgeships. Such action was long overdue and will mean less delay in the adjudication of law suits.

Both the House and Senate

have passed legislation to
establish a Cape Cod National
Seashore Park so as to preserve
for public enjoyment the scenic,
scientific, and historic
features of the Cape. This
legislation should soon go to
the President for his signature
and I am hopeful that other
legislation now pending before
the Congress to preserve our
shoreline areas for the public
will be enacted into law.

It has been my privilege
to ~~introduce on behalf~~ *CO-Sponsor with Sinclair on behalf* of the

*Wilderness
Preservation
bill!*

Administration a bill to
establish a Department of
Urban Affairs. My subcommittee
on reorganization has already
held hearings on this measure
and we will soon report the
bill to the Senate for its
consideration. Similar action
is being taken in the House
and I am hopeful that before
we adjourn this summer that
this Department will begin
operation. / Far too little
attention has been given to
the problems of our urban

areas. The need for such a
Department is all too apparent.

The Administration has
also presented to the Congress
a proposal to close the various
loopholes in the present tax
code. The House Ways and

Means Committee has been
considering these proposals.

While it appears that the
Committee will not approve all
of what the Administration is
asking, there will be progress.

← Congress has been most
concerned about the flagrant
abuses in regard to expense

Taxes

accounts. Loopholes in this area will be closed so that the expenses that have nothing to do with business can no longer be treated as a tax deductions.

①
Newt's
Program
w-1962

There has been a great deal of interest in my proposal of the establishment of a Youth Conservation Corps of young men to work in our nation's parks and forests on conservation projects. I have introduced such legislation and the Administration has given its backing of the

Youth
Opportunities
Act

establishment of such a Corps.

I am pleased to report that this legislation is now being considered by Committees in both the House and the Senate, and last week a Senate labor subcommittee approved the bill.

On the civil rights front, I am confident that in this session of Congress legislation will be enacted to extend the Civil Rights Commission which is due to expire in the fall of this year. I have been a strong supporter of the Civil

His
Action

Rights Commission. Years ago I proposed such a Commission to study civil rights problems. The Civil Rights Commission has been performing an excellent function and must be continued.

One of the great stumbling blocks to enactment of civil rights legislation in the Congress has been the threat of the filibuster in the Senate. Under present Senate rules it is most difficult to limit debate. Senate Rule 22 provides that Senate debate may be ended

Rules

Reorganization
Plans

7cc
sec

only upon the vote of two-thirds of the Senators present and voting. Senator Mansfield, the able Majority Leader, has announced that he will bring to the Senate for its consideration this year a resolution to liberalize Rule 22.

As a Senator from one of America's great farm states, I have been deeply concerned about agriculture legislation. Action in this area, unfortunately, has been slow and most difficult. Earlier this year

we did provide for an
emergency price support
program for feed grains to
cut back feed grain production,
while assuring the farmer a
fair price for his products.

*And it is
working!*

The Administration, as you
know, has presented to the
Congress a comprehensive farm
program which is designed to
bring order out of the present
chaos in which we find our-
selves. Despite the stories you
might hear to the affect that
the farmers are getting too much,

the fact of the matter is
the farmers are facing extreme
economic difficulties. Our
farm laws now are inadequate.
They fail to provide the
farmer with a decent standard
of living or to keep our
so-called food surplus within
reasonable bounds. The need
for new legislation is only
too clear. ~~Unfortunately,~~
~~the Congress is so split on~~
~~what should be done that no~~
~~common area of agreement has~~
~~been established.~~

Farm Credit Wheat
Food for Peace Feed Grains
Compensatory Payments

Foreign Relations - 32 -

Legislation dealing with international affairs is also moving ahead. As a matter of fact, at the present time in Washington, international affairs is the primary consideration and the major topic of conversation. Tonight I want to discuss in detail the Foreign Aid bill which is presently being considered in the House and Senate. But before I do so let me give a brief report of other items of international

Confirmations
↓
many!

interest which the Congress
has acted on already this
year.

Space
Development

First of all, we
appropriated \$600 million for
the Latin American Aid Program --
the "Alliance for Progress" --
which is designed to encourage
and promote social reform and
economic development.

The Senate also ratified
the creation of the Organization
for Economic Cooperation and
Development, which consists of
some 18 European member nations,

the United States and Canada.
This group is designed to
promote economic stability and
an orderly growth of the
economies of member states.

∠ The Congress recently
passed and the President
signed into law an act to
establish United States Travel
Service in the Department of
Commerce to promote and
encourage tourist travel from
abroad.

∠ I was most pleased that
the Senate approved my resolution

expressing an interest in
exploring with other nations
the possibility of establishing
an international food and raw
materials reserve under the
auspices of the United Nations.

We need to acquire and store
in appropriate countries raw
or processed farm products to
ease the effects of famines as
they develop throughout the
world.

The Senate also approved
my resolution authorizing the
President to establish a White

Fleet -- to assist in disaster areas in any coastal region of the world as well as to carry on a regular program of logistics support in the field of public health and other works of technical assistance.

One of America's greatest God-given resources is its great food abundance. I believe that this food abundance should be utilized fully to assist people in other areas of the world who suffer from food shortages. That is why I have been such a strong

supporter of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act -- Public Law 480. Under this Act, our so-called food surpluses are made available to other countries by way of direct sales, or barter or by outright grants. This Congress authorized the ^{use} ~~disposal~~ of an additional \$2 billion in surplus commodities under this Act. We also extended the Title II of Public Law 480 which provides for helping needy people in the less developed countries through

economic development programs.

↳ This year I have introduced legislation to give statutory authority to the Peace Corps.

I know you have all read and heard much about this program which has already been put into operation by an executive order of President Kennedy.

Peace
Corps

↳ Through the Peace Corps, talented and dedicated Americans are offering their services to other countries to work in the fields of education, agriculture, medicine, construction and a host

of other type of activities.

This is a most exciting
program and it has caught
the imagination of the

American people. I believe

it will succeed. Hearings

have ~~already~~ been ~~begun~~ ^{completed} on

this measure before the

Senate Foreign Relations

Committee. I am hopeful that

after the Foreign Relations

Committee has finished its

work on the Foreign Aid bill,

it will turn its attention to

this measure and it will be

able to test the bill before this session of the Congress adjourns.

Another bill that was presented by the Administration and which I introduced in the Senate would establish a new Disarmament Agency for World Peace and Security. We have paid all too little attention to the need for serious study and attention to the many difficult and complex problems involved in disarmament. The purpose of this bill is to establish an agency which would


DISARM

have the sole responsibility
for research and study on
the scientific, technical and
political problems of disarmament.

Cultural Exchange Act

Now I turn to the
legislation which is at the
very center of the congressional
stage. I refer, of course, to
the Foreign Aid bill which the
President has presented to the
Congress. As you know, the
President is vitally interested
in seeing that this bill is
enacted into law and that it

is not stripped of its key provisions. He is throwing the entire weight of his Administration behind the passage of this measure.


This is a big foreign aid bill. It will provide \$4½ billion for fiscal 1962.

The outlines of the bill indicate there will be larger requests in the years to come.

I support the foreign aid bill. I have in the past, under previous administrations, and I

shall continue to support
the foreign aid program.

 < I support the long-term
financing which the President
has requested. When the
President was a Senator he
voted for ~~that in this body.~~
I voted with him, as a United
States Senator. A year-by-
year program is wasteful,
leads to little or no planning,
and results in mismanagement
and the wasteful use of public
funds.

 I shall do my best, as a

Senator, as a member of the Committee on Foreign Relations, and as a member of the Committee on Appropriations, to see to it that our foreign aid program is put on a continuing, long-term basis, rather than operated as a year-by-year, hypodermic, prophylactic treatment which cures nothing. We have had enough examples of that type of program.

The most important feature of the President's foreign aid program is not the \$1,750 million

for technical assistance and economic aid. It is not \$1,880 million for military assistance. It is not even the \$900 million borrowing authority for the Development Loan Fund.

∟ The most important feature is the reorganization of the foreign aid agency.

The reorganization of the foreign aid establishment is a minimum requirement for congressional support for foreign aid. I wish to say, as a loyal

supporter of the Administration, that we want that reorganization not merely to be on top, but all the way down.

If our country is to be asked to pay a bill of over \$4 billion in foreign aid this coming year, we are entitled to have the best administrators that the country can supply.

yes, < It will be difficult to obtain congressional approval of the proposed \$4½ billion program. I doubt that we will be able to bring it through

without some cuts. But whatever foreign aid program goes through the Congress of the United States, it will have to be administered in a frugal, prudent, and imaginative way. I want to see a foreign aid administration that is filled with its mission for cooperative assistance to nations in other parts of the world. I want to see foreign aid administrators who will see to it that foreign aid results in social, economic, and political

reform. I want to see ~~the~~
foreign aid administrators
who will be able to say, "No,
we think the project is
unworthy or should not be
undertaken."

I wish to see foreign
aid mission chiefs who
understand the people of the
country in which they are
working. I wish to see chiefs
who do not live in American
ghettos, where all the Americans
gather to play bridge and pinochle,
and where all the Americans get

together so they can eat the
same kind of food. I want to
see a foreign aid program
through which we can learn to
know the people of the countries
that we seek to help.

Let my remarks not be
misunderstood. There are many
loyal, faithful, dedicated and
self-sacrificing servants in
the International Cooperation
Administration. I want it
quite clear that most of the
activities of the ICA have been
commendable. I want it equally

clear that the overwhelming majority of the personnel have been able, competent, and trustworthy. I want it equally clear that those who are not competent should be removed.

I I want to make sure that the money goes for the purpose for which it was authorized *and appropriated* ~~and for which we will appropriate~~ ~~it.~~ What is that purpose? To build the areas of freedom. Freedom in many areas requires social reform. Freedom requires

that the benefits of liberty and freedom should be carried to the people, to the grassroots.

Our mission and objective for the foreign-aid program must carry a new sense of purpose and dedication, and a new willingness to pioneer in the areas of economic improvement and social betterment. We must seek not only to change the scenery on top, but also to change the whole philosophy and the whole administration of foreign aid from top to bottom. Building

areas of freedom, with social justice, must be the commanding yardstick of our success.

I wish to make sure that those who administer the program administer it with a crusading zeal to accomplish our objectives. Unless we do so, we shall lose and waste money. A nation that can spend this amount of money for foreign aid can afford to make sure that what it spends is spent well and in the interest of the people.

That is the purpose of the

New Frontier. The New Frontier
requires the will, the dedication
and the zeal of all Americans
to build a better life for mankind.

(END)



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