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Crime Bill Notebook [1]

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CRIME BILL NOTEBOOK

July 20, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR LEON PANETTA

FROM:

RAHM EMANUEL *R.E.*

Subject:

Attached Communications Memo

The upcoming passage of the Crime Bill provides House Democrats who vote for the bill to champion the crime issue. This memo is to inform you of what we are doing to help House Democrats use the Crime Bill in their campaigns.

In particular, Majority Leader Gephardt asked us to prepare a document for House Democrats with ideas for crime events (see attached.) In addition, we are holding working sessions with Democratic House press secretaries to develop ideas for communications events on crime.

cc: George Stephanopoulos
Pat Griffin
Harold Ickes
Joan Baggett
Karen Hancox

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 22, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER

FROM: WHITE HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

SUBJECT: Crime Bill Promotion

As the Crime Bill nears enactment, we wanted to share with you some thoughts and ideas for events to promote your leadership in the fight against crime and violence. As you know, this comprehensive bill represents the largest federal attack on crime in history. Accordingly, we have tried to include a wide range of ideas that build on the bill's many and varied components. As a result, while some suggestions may not be appropriate for every district, we expect that every district will find some suggestions that prove useful.

The attached suggestions are designed to highlight the bill's principal components:

100,000 new police officers on the streets, engaged in community policing;

Tough punishments like three-strikes-you're-out;

Almost \$8 billion for **smart, effective prevention** programs like Youth, Employment, and Skills (YES), and Midnight Basketball;

Over \$8 Billion for **new prisons**;

A **ban on assault weapons**, and a ban on juvenile gun ownership;

An **attack on youth crime** including boot camps and drug courts; and

Strong initiatives to combat **violence against women**.

We hope you find this useful; if we can be of further help to you or your staff, please call:

Rahm Emanuel at 456-2531 or

Jonathan Prince at 456-7151.

100,000 COPS

This is the signature element of the Crime Bill -- as the President has said, "the best protection, toughest enforcement, and smartest prevention you can find."

Police Hiring Supplement. Last year's PHS included funds for new police officers in many Congressional districts. Attend a swearing-in of these new officers; point out that they were a "down payment on the Crime Bill" and passage means more police on the way.

Conference Call with Mayor/Aldermen/Police Chief/Sheriff. The day the Crime Bill passes, hold a conference call with local elected and law enforcement officials trumpeting the potential for new police officers in your district. Place an op-ed on community policing from you and the police chief in the local paper two days later.

Walk the Beat. If some form of community policing is already going on in your district, spend the day with an officer walking the beat. Invite a local crime reporter along. Begin the day at Roll Call with brief remarks to the assembled officers about the Crime Bill. Visit with shop owners and let them tell the reporter how good it is to have a familiar police presence.

Announce Community Policing Plan. If there is currently no community policing going on in your district but you expect it to be launched with help from the Crime Bill, begin preparations now to announce the new community policing plan with the police chief and local elected officials at a Roll Call over the recess. Even if there is current community policing, hold a similar event to announce how the department plans to expand its efforts with help from the Crime Bill.

Police as Prevention. Many police officers participate in various prevention-style activities -- they volunteer at Boys and Girls Clubs, they work with the local DARE program, they are simply good role models -- bring an officer and the children he or she works with to Washington for the day. Meet with the kids in your office and explain how the Crime Bill will work while calling on them to be responsible citizens.

TOUGH PUNISHMENT

This Crime Bill makes it clear that we are tough on crime -- when people commit crimes they should be punished and this Crime Bill doesn't let them off the hook. It includes stiff penalties for violent criminals -- especially three-strikes-you're-out.

Courthouse Press Conference. On the steps of the local courthouse, side by side with the DA and the sheriff, outline the tough punishments this Crime Bill makes law. Federal death penalties and a three-strikes-you're-out law that targets repeat violent offenders, locking them up so they can never hurt anybody again. Be sure to point out that it's a smart three-strikes -- it won't overcrowd the jails with barroom brawlers; it goes after the small but exceptionally dangerous group of criminals who commit a

huge portion of violent crimes. Remind your audience that Marc Klaas, Polly Klaas' father, is a strong advocate of this specific version of the law.

SMART PREVENTION

This bill rejects the false choice between punishment and prevention. It does both -- because we need to be tough on criminals but we also need to give kids something to say yes to, and turn them away from crime before it's too late.

Midnight Basketball. Already a proven success around the country, Midnight Basketball provides inner-city youth with a social outlet that keeps them away from gangs and drugs. Join a game one night over the recess. Before the game, make a brief statement about the importance of effective prevention -- and have a young man who avoided gangs because he was so involved with midnight basketball follow you.

Neighborhood Watch -- Orange Hat Patrol. Host a meeting of the Neighborhood Watch group in your neighborhood -- at your house. If your neighborhood doesn't have one, get some people together to start one -- and hold the first meeting at your house. Or accompany an Orange Hat patrol one night as they make their rounds.

Summer School. Speak to students in a local summer school program about the growing incidence of crimes against youth -- and crimes by youth. Charge them to take responsibility for their future and urge them to take advantage of programs like the one they're participating in. And devote a good portion of your remarks to the Safe Schools provisions included in the Crime Bill and already enacted in Goals 2000.

Summer of Safety. Although not directly a part of the Crime Bill, National Service's Summer of Safety program provides a good vehicle to highlight the Bill. If your district has a Summer of Safety program going on, join the participants for a day. During lunch, praise them for taking responsibility for fighting crime in their community and use their work as an example for others. You'll find that many of the Summer of Safety programs work in partnership with activities -- like community policing and prevention programs -- that are eligible for Crime Bill funding.

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

The ban on assault weapons removes guns from our streets and schoolyards that were designed exclusively to kill people in close-quarter combat -- at the same time it specifically protects the rights of hunters and sportsmen by explicitly exempting over 650 hunting and recreational rifles from the ban.

Police Evidence Room. Have a press conference in the evidence room of a local police station that contains a large number of confiscated assault weapons. Let the police chief or sheriff open the press conference by displaying some of the weapons and describing the terrible crimes they have been used for.

Public Housing Visit. Unfortunately, because these guns are the weapons of choice for gangs and drug dealers, and because those criminals too often operate out of public housing complexes, residents of public housing are terrorized by these weapons. Have a meeting with residents and tell them about the ban -- some of them may join you in testimonials about the terrible havoc these weapons wreak.

Firing Range. Go to a local firing range and watch a demonstration of a gun like the Street Sweeper followed by a conventional longarm rifle. When people see pictures of them side by side, they won't confuse assault weapons with hunting guns anymore.

YOUTH CRIME

Just as the rate of crimes committed against youths is rising, so too is the number of crimes committed by youth. This crime bill ensures that young offenders are punished with more than a slap on the wrist -- but doesn't throw them in with our most hardened criminals where the only thing they learn is the "right" way to commit crimes.

Boot Camps. The Crime Bill provides considerable funding for boot camp style incarceration programs for young offenders. In an environment similar to military basic training, boot camps teach discipline and respect for authority, while they also provide access to educational and vocational training, drug treatment, and other counseling services. Visit a boot camp program in your district if one exists, or join a few of your colleagues at a program in your state that incarcerates offenders from all of your districts. Make sure to include "graduates" on the program -- young offenders who have been through the boot camp and are now employed, law-abiding members of their communities.

Drug Courts. Drug Courts use intensive court supervision of addicted defendants to provide the carrot and stick approach that can help them beat their addiction. Used as a pre-trial as a diversion mechanism, or as part of a post-conviction probation program, Drug Courts provide testing and treatment coupled with graduated sanctions for failure to comply with program conditions. Visit an existing Drug Court in your district for the day. Meet with defendant-participants and encourage their commitment to kicking their habit. If your district doesn't have a program, invite the local reporter who covers these issues to Washington and visit the D.C. Drug Court together.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The Crime Bill cracks down on domestic violence by providing substantial money for a grant program to support increased security; training for judges and prosecutors; pro-arrest policies; and other initiatives. And it allows victims of gender-based violence to pursue civil remedies in federal court with assistance from federal prosecutors.

Provider Roundtable. The grant programs in the Violence Against Women Act fund an array of organizations that provide services to combat domestic violence. Convene

a day-long summit with representatives from organizations that will be eligible for funding and should be part of a community strategy. Don't forget city officials who are responsible for things like street lighting; include federal and local prosecutors; and make sure that groups that provide counseling and support services for victims are widely represented. Be prepared to issue a report that provides a blueprint for a comprehensive community strategy to fight domestic violence and help its victims.

Prosecutor's Press Conference. With the DA and the US Attorney, announce a joint strategy to aggressively prosecute domestic violence. Highlight the access to federal courts, resources, and law enforcement provided through the Crime Bill. Don't forget to mention the tougher penalties for rape and other crimes against women. And if the local police force has a domestic violence pro-arrest policy, make sure the chief or sheriff figures prominently on the program.

Joan —

Fiji,

from Rahm

SUMMARY OF CRIME CONFERENCE REPORT

TOTAL TRUST FUND DOLLARS -- \$30.2 billion

- * Provides \$30.2 billion over six years through the Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund. Savings from the President's reductions in the federal workforce, as calculated by the Congressional Budget Office -- and locked in by reductions in the budget cap -- will fund \$30.2 billion in crime bill initiatives as follows:

LAW ENFORCEMENT -- \$13.2 billion

STATE AND LOCAL¹ -- \$10.7 billion, including:

- * Community Policing: \$8.8 billion to put 100,000 police officers on the streets in community policing programs.
- * Rural law enforcement: \$245 million for rural anti-crime and drug efforts.
- * Technical automation: \$130 million for technical automation grants for law enforcement agencies.
- * Brady bill: \$150 million for Brady bill implementation.
- * Drug enforcement: \$1 billion in Byrne formula grants.
- * DNA: \$40 million for DNA testing research and programs.
- * Courts, prosecutors, and public defenders: \$200 million.

FEDERAL -- \$2.6 billion, including:

- * FBI: \$250 million
- * DEA: \$150 million
- * INS and Border Patrol: \$1 billion

¹ Police Corps: Also authorizes \$400 million from the general Treasury for college scholarships for students who agree to serve as police officers, and for scholarships for in-service officers.

- * **United States Attorneys: \$50 million**
- * **Treasury Department: \$578 million**
- * **Justice Department: \$300 million**
- * **Federal Courts: \$200 million**

PRISONS -- \$6.3 billion

- * **Grants to States: \$6.5 billion to states for prisons and incarceration alternatives such as boot camps to ensure that additional prison cells will be available to put -- and keep -- violent offenders behind bars. 40% of monies to be set aside for states that adopt truth in sentencing laws.²**
- * **Allen Incarceration: \$1.8 billion to states for the costs of incarcerating criminal illegal aliens.**

CRIME PREVENTION -- \$7.4 billion, including:

- * **Ounce of Prevention: \$100 million to create an Interagency Ounce of Prevention Council to coordinate new and existing crime prevention programs.**
- * **Community Schools: \$630 million for afterschool, weekend and summer "safe haven" programs to provide children with positive activities and alternatives to the street life of crime and drugs.**
- * **F.A.C.E.S.: \$270 million to provide in-school assistance to at-risk children, including education, mentoring and other programs.**
- * **YES: \$650 million for the President's Youth Employment and Skills crime prevention program, to provide jobs to young adults in high crime areas. Conditions program involvement on continued responsible behavior. Authorizes an additional \$250 million from non-Trust Fund sources.**
- * **Violence Against Women Act: \$1.8 billion to fight violence against women.**
 - * **Includes funds to increase and train police, prosecutors, and judges; to encourage pro-arrest policies; for victim services and**

²An additional \$2.2 billion is authorized for prison and boot camps grants from the general Treasury (non-trust fund sources).

advocates; battered women's shelters; rape education and community prevention programs; a national family violence hotline, and increased security in public places.

- * Provides first-ever civil rights remedy for victims of felonies motivated by gender bias.
- * Extends "rape shield law" protections to civil cases and to all criminal cases to bar irrelevant inquiries into a victim's sexual history.
- * Requires all states to honor "stay-away orders" issued by courts in other states.
- * Requires confidentiality for the addresses of family violence shelters and abused persons.
- * **Local Partnership Act:** \$1.6 billion for direct funding to localities around the country for anti-crime efforts, such as drug treatment, education, and jobs.
- * **Model Intensive Grants:** \$895 million for model crime prevention programs targeted at high crime neighborhoods.
- * **Community Economic Partnership:** \$300 million for lines of credit to community development corporations to stimulate business and employment opportunities for low-income, unemployed and underemployed individuals.
- * **Drug Treatment:** \$425 million for drug treatment programs for state (\$300) and federal (\$125) prisoners. Creates a treatment schedule for all drug-addicted federal prisoners. Requires drug testing of federal prisoners on release.
- * **Anti-gang grants:** \$125 million for programs to give young people positive alternatives to gangs (such as academic, athletic, artistic after-school activities, mentoring programs, scout troops, and sports leagues).
- * **Sports Leagues:** \$40 million for midnight sports leagues to give at-risk youth nightly alternatives to the streets, and \$50 million for the U.S. Olympic Committee to develop supervised sports and recreation programs in high-crime areas.
- * **Boys and Girls Clubs:** \$30 million to establish clubs in low income housing communities, and \$10 million to encourage police officers to live in those communities.

- * **Triad:** \$6 million for partnerships between senior citizen groups and law enforcement to combat crimes against elderly Americans.
- * **Police Partnerships:** \$20 million for partnerships between law enforcement and social service agencies to fight crimes against children, and for the creation of youth councils to combat crime.
- * **Visitation centers:** \$30 million for supervised centers for divorced or separated parents to visit their children in "safe havens" where there is a history or risk of physical or sexual abuse.

DRUG COURTS -- \$1.3 billion

- * Provides \$1.3 billion for drug court programs for at least 600,000 non-violent offenders with substance abuse problems over the next six years. Participants will be intensively supervised, given drug treatment, and subjected to graduated sanctions -- ultimately including prison terms -- for failing random drug tests.³

FIREARMS

- * **Assault Weapons:** Bans the manufacture of 19 named military-style assault weapons, assault weapons with specific combat features, "copy-cat" models, and high-capacity ammunition magazines ("clips") of more than ten rounds.
- * **Kids and Guns:** Prohibits the sale or transfer of a gun to a juvenile, and possession of a gun by a juvenile.
- * **Domestic Abusers:** Prohibits gun sales to, and possession by, persons subject to family violence restraining orders.
- * **Gun Licensing:** Strengthens federal licensing standards for firearms dealers.

³The combination of prevention and drug court monies brings the total trust fund dollars for prevention and rehabilitation to \$8.7 billion.

GANGS AND YOUTH VIOLENCE

- * **Gang Crimes:** Provides new, stiff penalties for violent and drug crimes committed by gangs.
- * **Using kids to sell drugs:** Triples penalties for using children to deal drugs near schools and playgrounds.
- * **Recruiting, encouraging kids to commit crimes:** Enhances penalties for all crimes using children, and for recruiting, encouraging children to commit a crime.
- * **Drug free zones:** Increases penalties for drug dealing in drug free zones -- near playgrounds, schoolyards, video arcades, and youth centers.
- * **Public housing:** Increases penalties for drug dealing near public housing projects.
- * **Adult prosecution of violent juvenile:** Authorizes adult treatment of 13 year olds charged with the most violent of crimes (murder, attempted murder, aggravated assault, armed robbery, rape); authorizes grants to states for bindover programs for violent 16 and 17 year olds.

DEATH PENALTY

- * Expands the federal death penalty to cover over 50 offenses, including terrorism, murder of a law enforcement officer, large-scale drug trafficking, drive-by-shootings, and carjackers who murder.

OTHER PENALTIES

- * **Three Strikes:** Mandates life imprisonment for criminals convicted of three violent felonies or drug offenses.
- * **Miscellaneous:** Increases or creates new penalties for 60 criminal offenses, primarily covering violent crimes, drug trafficking and gun crimes, including:

* drive-by shootings	* interstate gun trafficking
* use of semi-automatic weapons	* aggravated sexual abuse
* drug use, trafficking in prison	* gun smuggling
* gun, explosives possession by convicts	* arson
* sex offenses, assaults against children	* hate crimes
* crimes against the elderly	* drunk driving

TERROHISM

- * **Death penalty:** Creates new terrorism death penalty, and extends the statute of limitations for terrorism offenses.
- * **Increased penalties:** Increases penalties for any felony involving or promoting international terrorism.
- * **Treaty Implementation:** Creates new offenses implementing treaties regarding crimes against maritime platforms and in international airports.
- * **Informants:** Creates new authority for the Attorney General and the State Department to bring witnesses to the United States to testify in terrorist crimes.

CRIMINAL ALIENS AND IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT -- \$1 billion

- * **Deportation of criminal aliens:** Provides a new summary deportation procedure to speed deportation of aliens who have been convicted of crimes.
- * **Increased penalties:** Increases penalties for smuggling aliens and for document fraud.
- * **Funding:** Provides a total of \$1 billion for new border patrol agents, asylum reform, and other immigration enforcement activities.

CRIME VICTIMS

- * **Right of allocution:** Allows victims of violent and sex crimes to speak at the sentencing of their assailants.
- * **Mandatory restitution:** Requires sex offenders and child molesters to pay restitution to their victims.
- * **Protection of Victims funds:** Prohibits diversion of victims' funds to other federal programs.

FRAUD

- * **Telemarketing fraud:** Enhances penalties for telemarketing frauds targeted at senior citizens and multiple victims.
- * **Computer crime:** Revises and expands computer crime offenses.
- * **Insurance fraud:** Creates a new federal offense of major fraud by insurance companies against their policyholders.
- * **Credit card fraud:** Revises and expands credit card fraud offenses.



DEMOCRATIC
CONGRESSIONAL
CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Vic Fazio, CA
Chairman

TO: Joan Baggett
FR: DCCC Political
RE: Crime Bill Update
DT: August 15, 1994

Crime Bill Follow-Up

Here are the latest clips and press releases.

CA46



DORNAN PUTS POLITICAL GRIDLOCK AHEAD OF CRIME VICTIMS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Jim Prince

August 11, 1994

(714) 541-1994

(Santa Ana, Ca.) - Mike Farber, Candidate for the 46th Congressional seat, assailed his opponent's vote today on the House floor against the Omnibus Crime Bill.

"Dornan's vote today against the rule to consider the 1994 anti-crime bill is the latest example of his dismal record on crime and law enforcement," stated Farber.

In his speech to the House, Dornan dismissed the entire bill as a "remarkable travesty" without offering *any* substantive alternatives.

Typical of Dornan's lax attitude on this critical issue is his ignorance of crime in his own district. In a recent nighttime "ride-along" in a Santa Ana police patrol car, his first in over ten years, Dornan expressed surprise to learn that Santa Ana is the second most densely populated city in California, with a severe gang problem. As if visiting a foreign city for the first time, Dornan said with amazement, "Look at all this graffiti and the house boarded up. And we're just on the edge of Civic Center?"

Also typical are Dornan's recent votes against the Brady Handgun Violence Protection Act, the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, and the Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act--all of which passed with substantial majorities.

Responding to Dornan's vote today against the crime bill, Farber said, "It is incredible to me that Dornan can with a good conscience seek re-election to the 46th Congressional District where crime is such a serious problem. His consistent voting record against all federal efforts to fight crime should be made known to every voter in the district. His vote today is just one more example of how he neglects the problems of his constituents. No wonder he wants to call it quits now."

GA 04

Comer Yates for Congress

For Immediate Release: August 12, 1994
Contact: Susan Medlock at (404) 982-0094

YATES: LINDER'S VOTE ON CRIME BILL IRRESPONSIBLE

Comer Yates, candidate for the 4th Congressional District, today called incumbent John Linder's vote against allowing the Crime Bill (HR 3355) to be considered before the full House of Representatives "irresponsible."

"Linder claims to represent the people of the 4th District," Yates said, "But in truth he represents the NRA (National Rifle Association). This is a striking example of how out of touch he is and how he is not listening to the citizens he supposedly represents," said Yates.

"Linder's vote is against 100,000 additional police officers, the 'three strikes and you're out' life imprisonment provision for career offenders, and a ban on 19 specific assault weapons. By voting 'no' on a procedural motion, he has denied the opportunity for Congress to simply discuss anti-crime legislation," Yates said. "He has caved in to the NRA." The NRA has contributed \$12,450 to Linder since 1991.

(more)

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Comer Yates/Add 1

"As the NRA's standard bearer, Linder has violated the principles of democracy by voting against the procedural motion which would have allowed Congress to debate this decade's critical crime legislation," Yates said.

The House defeated the procedural resolution measure by a vote of 225-210 on Thursday. Further action on the crime bill is pending.

JL-16

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Shannon Mouton
815/963-4413
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Rep. Don Manzullo Votes to Block the Crime Bill Democratic Challenger Pete Sullivan Says Rep. Don Manzullo Votes in Lock Step with NRA

Congressional candidate Pete Sullivan (Roscoe-D) blasted Rep. Don Manzullo for voting to block consideration and debate of the most sweeping crime prevention package ever considered by congress.

"Rep. Don Manzullo has kowtowed to the NRA. His vote is against additional police officers, a ban on assault weapons and "three strikes you're out" life imprisonment provision. By voting no on a procedural motion he has denied the opportunity for Congress to simply discuss anti-crime legislation. Nothing is so dangerous that it can't even be considered," Sullivan said.

The 1994 Crime Bill Conference Report would have included provisions to put 100,000 more cops on the streets; impose a "three strikes you're out" life imprisonment provision aimed at career offenders; a ban on assault weapons; expansion of the death penalty and innovative crime prevention programs.

However, the NRA coerced some Congressmen into voting against a procedural motion that would allow Congress to debate this decade's most important crime legislation.

It is clear that the NRA was anxious to stop a vote on the crime bill out of concern that such a vote could be used against certain Congressmen in the Fall elections.

"Rep. Don Manzullo has put his personal popularity with the NRA, not to mention the enormous amount of financial support from the NRA, and his own political future above the safety and protection of his constituents. He claims that he had problems with the legislation. What problems justify a vote against debate? He voted not to discuss this bill. That is politics and gridlock not representation."

The House defeated Thursday afternoon the procedural resolution measure by a vote of 225-210. Further action on the crime bill is pending.

MA-6

JOHN Tierney

FOR CONGRESS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 15, 1994

CONTACT: David Williams
(508) 741-8686

TIERNEY CALLS ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN ESSENTIAL
TO ANTI-CRIME FIGHT; LOCAL OFFICIALS JOIN HIM
IN CONDEMNING TORKILDSEN'S OPPOSITION

6th Congressional District candidate John Tierney (D.Salem) today offered strong support to the determination of House Democratic leaders to include the ban on assault weapons in the crime bill as they continue their efforts to round up enough votes to pass the measure. The bill was dealt a setback last week on a procedural vote. Published reports indicate the Republican leadership in Washington is anxious to block a vote on a crime bill that includes a ban on assault weapons out of concern that such a vote would be used against them in the November elections.

"Everyone I've spoken to in this district - from police officers to the average citizen - emphasizes how important it is to get these lethal weapons off the streets," said Tierney. "The ban is an essential component in the battle against violent criminals. It should not be deleted from the crime bill."

Tierney's criticism of incumbent Peter Torkildsen's vote against the assault weapon ban and last week's attempt to bring the crime bill to the House floor for a final vote was echoed today by local elected officials from across the district.

"It's all too easy for Peter Torkildsen to come up with excuses for not voting for the crime bill," said Peabody City Councilor and retired police officer Bob Maguire. "But the sad reality is that on two occasions he had the opportunity to stand up to the NRA and on two occasions he caved. These votes will come back to haunt him."

The Republican National Committee is considering a resolution which threatens to deny Republican Party funding to the 38 Republican congressmen who voted for the assault weapon ban in May. Republican leaders purportedly used this resolution to pressure Rep. Torkildsen to vote against the crime bill.

"I'm very disappointed in Peter's failure to do anything meaningful to fight crime," said Salem Mayor Neil Harrington. "It's yet another example of his lack of leadership and inability to help his constituents."

-MORE-

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(508) 741-8686 Fax (508) 741-2759

Paid for and authorized by The John Tierney for Congress Committee.

"There are provisions in this crime bill that would help the entire district," said Haverhill City Councilor Gary Domoracki. "We particularly need the funds that are included in it to hire more police officers. Haverhill had to cut other necessities out of the city budget last year so we could afford to pay for five more police officers. It's important that the crime bill become law now."



NC-11

**Maggie
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For immediate release
Thursday August 11, 1994

For more information contact:
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Lauterer Criticizes Congress on Crime Vote

Renews Call for Taylor to "Lead, Follow, or Get Out of the Way"

Congressional candidate Maggie Lauterer criticized Congress today for its 210-225 procedural vote to keep the long-awaited Crime Bill from coming before Congress.

"This is not gridlock, this inaction is a national disgrace," said Lauterer. "Every day that Congress plays politics, there are 65 more murders, 4,000 more violent crimes, and 8,000 more homes broken into. How many more days can we take? If these Democrats and Republicans can't make the tough decisions we need, they should go home."

Lauterer also criticized Congressman Charles Taylor, renewing her charge that he should "lead, follow, or get out of the way."

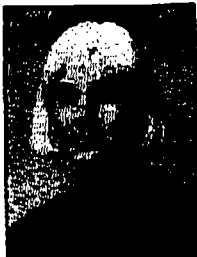
"When it came time for our Congressman to stand tall and protect us, he went out the back door," said Lauterer.

Lauterer supports the bill for its tough provisions, including:

- "Three Strikes You're Out" legislation for repeat felons
- Funding for 100,000 new police in urban and rural areas
- 60 new federal death penalties
- Habeus corpus reforms that limit death row appeals
- New rights for victims of crime
- Trying juveniles as adults in more violent felonies
- Tough federal sentences for U.S. citizens who go abroad on "child sex tours"
- Funding for crime prevention programs

Lauterer also warned against attempts to divert public attention away from larger crime issues towards the assault weapons ban. "This bill is about crime control, not gun control. I am a staunch defender of hunters' and sportsmen's rights, and I always have been," said Lauterer.

#



Maggie Lauterer

for U.S. Congress

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What Real Law Enforcement Says About the Crime Bill

*Source: Democratic Study Group
(202) 225-5858*

"NAPO strongly supports the crime bill conference report. As law enforcement officers, it is our job to fight and now we are finally being given the help we so desperately need."

National Association of Police Organizations

"...the FOP strongly believes that the Crime Bill will benefit the citizens of this nation and provide a strong safety mechanism for our officers doing the tough job on the streets."

—Fraternal Order of Police

"We support swift passage of the Conference Report... We need to do everything possible to stop the rising crime, especially in rural America where sheriffs have the vast majority of the responsibility."

—National Sheriff's Association

"...we believe the final efforts provide a balance of programs that hold the potential for making a vast difference for our nation in reducing the crime rate. We would urge that the Crime Bill be enacted."

—National District Attorneys Association

"FLEOA urges you and your colleagues for the quick passage of this very important piece of legislation. It is important to note that laws alone don't make people safe, law officers with adequate resources do!"

—Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association

"We believe that the compromise crime bill legislation just sent forward by the conference committee is necessary and we urge all members of the House and Senate to support it and the President to sign it."

—National Troopers Coalition

"We strongly support the bill's provisions and desire to have it passed as expeditiously as possible."

—International Association of Chiefs of Police

"...the legislation contains initiatives of great help to federal, state, and local police in their quest for safer streets."

—Major Cities Chiefs

What Real Law Enforcement Says About the Crime Bill, p.2

"...with its immediate passage, the officers on the street will move forward knowing they now have the support they have needed for so long."

—International Union of Police Associations

"The failure of this bill to pass would represent a terrible blow to citizens who are besieged by crime and violence."

—Police Foundation

"We are pleased to add our endorsement of your efforts and pledge support of the Association in implementing the provisions of the bill."

—National Association of Attorneys General

"The IBPO has long advocated comprehensive efforts to address violent crime where it occurs: at the state and local [sic]. This crime bill represents historic achievements to accomplish this goal.... We urge you to take action now."

—International Brotherhood of Police Officers

"PERF believes that this crime bill is a balanced and reasonable response to the crime PERF members face in cities across the country. We urge every member of Congress to support police by voting for passage of the crime bill as outlined in the conference report."

—Police Executive Research Forum

"...we at NOBLE are fully supporting the passage of the Crime Bill..."

---National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives

Patrick
COMBS
for United States Congress

August 12, 1994

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jack Cheloha: (402) 476-8683

COMBS BLASTS BEREUTER FOR "NO" VOTE ON CRIME BILL

Patrick Combs, Democratic Candidate for Congress in the First Congressional District today blasted Doug Bereuter for his "No" vote on the Omnibus Crime Bill debated in the House of Representatives yesterday.

"My opponent has listened to special interests and chosen to oppose this historic anti-crime measure. He has the right to champion the status-quo, but rather than just reject long-sought bills, why not initiate alternatives? Once again, the incumbent has buckled under the pressure of the national Republican party and special interest. He had a chance to truly do something positive about our national crime problem. Congressman Bereuter has failed us as a representative. Moreover, our system of government has failed us because, once again, the voices of our electorate have been ignored. The people of Nebraska want action now to fight crime--not gridlock. If Nebraskans had a vote on this piece of legislation, it would have passed overwhelmingly."

"Thirty years ago, there were three police officers for every violent crime. Today, there are three violent crimes for every police officer. And this legislation protects small town America: 50,000 of the 100,000 new police officers go to towns with populations of 120,000 or less."

"Six billion dollars of this \$30 billion crime bill would have funded prison construction and much needed prison alternatives, such as boot camps. It also targeted violence against women and violence in schools. The Violence Against Women section of the bill allocated \$1.8 billion to fight crimes of which women are typically the victims."

"Today there are twice as many shelters for animals in the United States as there are shelters for battered women. The harsher penalties for gang-related crimes and funding school activities for at-risk youths attack these encroaching problems here in the First District."

"I support the victims of crime: abused women, our nation's youth, senior citizens and honest, law-abiding Americans left unprotected because of understaffed law enforcement. In addition, the crime bill's annual \$5 billion cost pales versus the \$300 billion annual cost of crime to taxpayers."

"As a concerned Nebraska citizen, I called Congressman Bereuter's office today to register my displeasure with his vote on this important piece of legislation. I urge all Nebraskans, who are concerned about crime, to call Doug Bereuter's office at 438-1598 and voice their disappointment."

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Paid for by the Combs for Congress Committee.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jack Cheloha (402) 476-8683

August 13, 1994

COMBS: BEREUTER SELLS OUT

It is a sad day in America when a national political party drafts a resolution condemning its member for voting against the party platform. The Republican National Committee in a resolution of condemnation threatened to deny 38 Congressmen of all party campaign funding if they failed to vote the party line.

... the Republican National Committee condemns those 38 Congressmen. . . and shall, hereafter, deny all Republican Party funding to any and all of those 38 Congressmen should they seek re-election.

Congressional Record, August 11, 1994 Pg. H7949

Doug Bereuter, one of the 38, buckled under this pressure by voting against the 1994 Omnibus Crime Bill. He had previously, in May 1994, voted for the assault weapons ban and cited provisions that were removed in conference committee as the reasons that he opposed the original House version of the crime bill.

Congressional Candidate Patrick Combs said, "This is a perfect example of what is wrong with our system. Partisan politics dictate votes that affect millions of people, their lives and safety."

Bereuter's vote for his campaign coffers and against the crime bill will cost Nebraska 900 police officers; \$15 million in prison grants; \$93 million in law enforcement grants; and \$28 million in crime prevention grants.

"My opponent has put his campaign fund and personal popularity with party bigwigs above the safety and protection of his constituents. He claims that he had problems with the legislation. What problems justify a vote against debate? He voted not to discuss the bill. That is political gridlock, not representation."

"When is the political nightmare going to end?" Combs declared, "It will end when we have the courage to send people to Washington who are dedicated to reforming the system. People will vote for the good of the people rather than promoting their own re-elections. People have the strength of character to vote for what is right regardless of the consequences or pressure. My opponent failed to resist this pressure and let his vote be bought by the system."

The House defeated the procedural resolution measure Thursday afternoon by a vote of 210. Further action on the crime bill is pending.

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to

W...
OH-10

Contact: Tom Sweeney
Peter Boyle
331- GAUL (4285)

13 August 1994
Time: NOON
Location: Ohio City

MEDIA ADVISORY:

GAUL ASKS HOKE, "WHY?" Hoke Vote Puts Crime Bill in Jeopardy Hoke Still "For" Assault Weapons

"I am one of Martin Hoke's frustrated and angry constituents. He sent me, my family and 580,000 other people in the 10th District a newsletter that says he is calling for 'tough measures' on crime and then he votes against the Crime Bill and a ban on assault weapons for the second time", says Francis E. Gaul.

Gaul will call into question Hoke's truthfulness, judgement and ability to represent the people of the 10th District at NOON at 25th & Lorain in Ohio City where residents and businesses have hired two off-duty Cleveland policemen to patrol. Mr. Hoke's vote was one of 15 that helped kill consideration of a bill that would put 28 more police on Cleveland streets.

"Crime is not an issue. It is reality for many people. Martin Hoke lives in a security protected high rise on the Gold Coast. He doesn't come to the areas where his "no" vote impacts daily life. I understand the frustration of the people because it is areas like Ohio City that my office has begun to redevelop...and in order for that process to go as far as it can...people have to feel safe", says Gaul. Hoke voted against 3900 more police for Ohio.

August 12, 1994
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

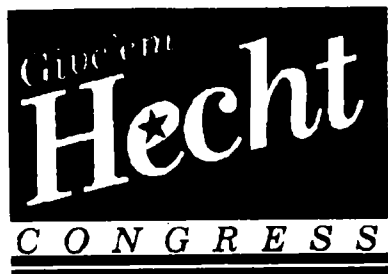
OH-12
For more information contact:
Mark Burghart (224-4133)

Kasich Gives Criminals A Vacation

John Kasich's vote last night to stop passage of the crime bill, is a direct reversal of his stated support for the bill. "My opponent may try to hide behind procedural rules but the people of the 12th district know better," said Ruccia. "He yielded to his Republican party bosses and played politics with the most important issue in front of the Congress. My opponents decision to help stop the crime bill's passage has effectively granted parole to the criminals praying on our society. Once again I am shocked and dismayed my opponent would say one thing and do another."

"By putting the crime bill in the political battlefield, my opponent has turned his back on our community. Our neighborhoods can not afford to wait for the protection this bill will provide, our families can not wait for the increased police protection, the stiffer sentences for violent criminals and the ban on assault weapons that this bill affords. We must stop the killing of children on our streets and the terrorizing of our community. My opponent has failed our community and has placed partisan politics ahead of public safety."

WI 02



Tom Hecht For Congress

P.O. Box 1711, Madison, WI 53701

Ph: 608-284-1994

Fax: 608-284-9000

For More Information, contact
Duff Johnson, Campaign Manager

-- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE --

Sunday, August 14, 1994

A CASE STUDY IN HYPOCRISY

MADISON... "Consistency has never been Klug's strong suit," said Democratic candidate for Congress Tom Hecht today. "Congressman Klug's 'all things to all people' brand of politics has caught up with him -- again. The people I've met here in southern Wisconsin want the Crime Bill," said Hecht. "While I have reservations about this legislation, particularly with respect to the death penalty provisions and the need for more proven crime-prevention measures, I have supported this bill as a serious approach to violent crime in our country. I'm disappointed that our Congressman reversed himself under partisan pressure. Klug opposed a bill which six days before the vote, he said he supported. If anything, is tougher on crime than the original bill he voted for in April. Klug came under enormous pressure, including threats from the Republican party, to change his vote. He did so."

Hecht cited Klug's vote Thursday to kill the Crime Bill as the most recent, and egregious, example of a Congressman without a core set of principles. "Klug voted in April for the House version of the Crime Bill. At that time, the Crime Bill was a \$28 billion bill. The conference committee agreement, which Klug voted to kill on Thursday, was a \$33.5 billion bill. The difference between these two bills is due almost entirely to increases in law enforcement spending -- not the 'social engineering' Klug so despises."

"In fact, the midnight sports leagues, which Klug finds so objectionable, not only constituted just 0.15 percent of the total Crime Bill, but was actually reduced by ten million dollars between the House version and the conference committee report. Klug voted for more "midnight basketball" money in April than he voted against in August!"

“The spending increases in the ‘crime-prevention’ portion of the package (which total only \$775 million have nothing to do with ‘social-engineering’ at all. Unless, that is, Rep. Klug chooses to view grants to combat violence against women, youth employment programs and community schools as ‘social engineering’,” Hecht said.

Under the heading: “Crime Bill Nears Final Passage in Congress”, Klug’s own franked-mail propaganda itself espouses the benefits of the crime prevention programs contained in the Crime Bill Klug so recently voted to kill. In this literature, mailed to 2nd District residents in early July, Klug said: “Tougher criminal penalties are certainly key, but education, prevention and drug treatment are also important components to ending the wave of violence.” Klug goes on to say: “If we give kids new activities and programs that take up their time and their minds we can keep them off the streets and out of trouble.”

“When he wrote those lines, Klug was absolutely right,” says Hecht. “Too bad Klug didn’t have the guts to stand up to Newt Gingrich and the Republican leadership and tell them what he told the voters of the 2nd district. If it wasn’t patently obvious before, by now it’s blatantly obvious that when Newt Gingrich and the Republican leadership say ‘jump’, Scott Klug says, ‘how high’.”

Hecht noted that today’s Wisconsin State Journal cited Brandon Scholtz, Klug’s Chief of Staff, as saying that Klug would like to see “spending rolled back to the original level.” **“It must be fairly asked, what did Klug mean when he told his constituents only last week on WTSO and elsewhere that he would vote for the crime bill in it’s post-conference committee form?”** Hecht wonders. **“While I have substantive problems with this Crime Bill, I have consistently supported it as a needed piece of legislation,”** Hecht said.

WI-03



For Immediate Release
August 12, 1994

For Information Contact:
Brent Gustafson
(715) 381-5240

BEAR TO GUNDERSON: END GRIDLOCK Says Legislation on Crime is Far Overdue

"Congress has a responsibility to protect its citizens," Democratic Congressional candidate Peter Bear of Hudson said. He urged Congress to take advantage of the defeat of a crime bill laden with political gimmicks and pass legislation that will truly put more police on the streets and imprison convicted criminals.

Bear stated, "It's time for those in Washington to lead and that includes Steve Gunderson. This most recent example of Washington gridlock gives us the opportunity to craft legislation that will protect our families and our communities."

Bear believes that a new crime bill must have community policing, monies for rural law enforcement, grants to build more prisons, strict penalties for violence against women, strong anti-gang and youth violence provisions, a mandatory sentencing provision, and the ability to try juveniles who commit murder as adults.

Rep. Steve Gunderson (R-Osseo) voted against a procedural motion on the crime bill which would have allowed this decade's most sweeping crime legislation to come to the House floor for debate.

"Rep. Gunderson has put his personal popularity with party bigwigs and own political future above the safety and protection of his constituents. He claims that he had problems with the legislation. What problems justify a vote against debate? He voted not to discuss this bill. That is politics and gridlock, not representation."

Bear stated, "The time for action is now. The crime problem in this country demands attention from those in Washington. Action should have been taken long ago. Congress' failure to act even at this late date is reason to clean house in Washington. I pledge to go to Washington and fight to help the hard-working people of western Wisconsin, who have been without true representation for far too long."

Peter Bear, 41, lives with his wife, Victoria, and their four children in Hudson. The former state Representative and state Senator currently manages state and local government affairs and community public relations for 3M.



For US, it's time

WI-8

Gruszynski

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
CONTACT:**

**AUGUST 11, 1994
Melissa Metzler
414-432-7826**

**VOTE BY CONGRESS TO KILL CRIME BILL IS SHORT-SIGHTED --
LOCAL COMMUNITIES WILL SUFFER**

Congressional Candidate Stan Gruszynski says communities throughout Wisconsin will suffer due to a vote Congress took today to block a comprehensive crime bill from going to the House floor for debate.

A majority of Congress voted "no" earlier today on a procedural motion, thus preventing Congress from even considering tough crime legislation. The bill's provisions included putting 100,000 additional police officers on the streets, enacting a ban on assault weapons, and a "Three Strikes, You're Out" provision that would have put repeat offenders behind bars for good. The bill would have provided Wisconsin with more prisons, more funding for programs to keep kids off the streets, and grants for combatting crimes against women.

"Today's vote was a setback for local law enforcement efforts," Gruszynski said. "Our communities are struggling with rising crime rates and a short-sighted Congress said no, we won't help you."

"Sheriffs, police officers and others tell me in every

-- more --

For U.S. Congress

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Congress Kills Crime Bill/2 of 2

community I visit that they are overwhelmed by growing crime," Gruszynski said. "It is the responsibility of local, state and federal government to provide support for these communities. Congress talks big when it comes to fighting crime, but it has failed to deliver results."

Gruszynski notes the State Legislature was able to pass a crime package similar to this bill by bringing it to the floor, debating it vigorously, making changes, and passing it last October. "We hammered out a bi-partisan crime bill because people wanted results," Gruszynski said. "Congress should be able to do the same."

Gruszynski voted for that bill in the Legislature and led the fight for tougher crime laws by introducing and passing "Three Strikes, You're Out" legislation.

-- end --

Changer rips Pombo for blocking crime bill

By FRANCIS P. GARLAND
Staff writer

STOCKTON — Democratic Congressional hopeful Randy Perry and several city officials joined forces Friday to rip Rep. Richard Pombo for helping block a sweeping \$33 billion anti-crime bill.

At a gathering in front of the San Joaquin County Courthouse, Perry accused Pombo, R-Tracy, of turning his back on strong community law enforcement, female crime victims and tougher death penalty statutes with his vote Thursday.

A coalition of Republicans, gun-control opponents and others turned back the bill in a parliamentary motion that prevented the House of Representatives from actually voting on the bill.

Pombo, a member of the crime bill's conference committee, called the bill a "wasteful, pork-laden election-year charade."

Perry, a Stockton resident who currently manages governmental affairs for the Peace Officers Research Association of California, is challenging Pombo to represent the 11th Congressional District, which includes southern Sacramento County and most of San Joaquin County.

The bill, Perry said, would have provided funding for

100,000 more police officers on the streets nationwide, \$10.5 billion worth of new prisons and for numerous programs to combat domestic violence and crimes against women and children.

Perry said California has been a leader in battling crime, but Congress's action Thursday was a "giant step backward."

"We need this funding to make sure criminals get the justice they deserve," said Perry, whose of supporters included Stockton Mayor Joan Darrah and Vice Mayor Floyd Weaver.

Pombo said he'd be happy to go back and draft a bill that will "address crime and be tough on criminals, not on taxpayers."

Pombo said he supports retaining mandatory minimum sentences, building more prisons and using punishment — and the threat of punishment — as a deterrent to crime.

Sandra Davis, a Stockton woman who helped start an organization known as Mothers Against Gang Wars, said the area needs help from its legislators.

"We're out here on the street trying to bring these men and women together," she said. "But we can't do it by ourselves. People are hurting. People are in pain."

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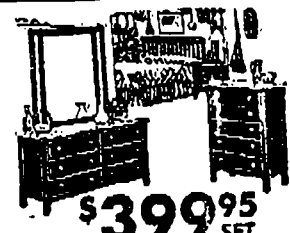
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~~Q. P. Ryan~~

Saturday's clippings

CT-5

Franks takes heat for crime bill vote

He says measure was full of pork

By Linda Simoes Cocchiola
Republican American 3/13

WATERBURY — The two Democratic challengers for the 5th District congressional seat criticized Republican incumbent Rep. Gary Franks on Friday for his vote to reject the president's \$33.2 billion anti-crime bill.

State Sen. James Maloney, D-Danbury, the candidate endorsed by the Democratic Party, and independent challenger Rep. Tomas Luby, D-Meriden, chided Franks for breaking ties with the rest of the Connecticut House delegation in Congress.

Franks, a two-term incumbent, was the only Connecticut member to cast a vote to keep the bill from a full vote on the House floor. That vote killed the crime bill.

"Simply put, Gary Franks showed today that he is not serious about fighting crime," Maloney stated in a press release issued Friday.

"Gary Franks' unwillingness to stand with the people of Connecticut on this critical issue

is symbolic of the job he's done in Washington," Luby said in a statement also issued Friday.

Rep. Nancy Johnson, R-6th District, drafted a letter to President Clinton Friday saying the crime bill could be rejuvenated with a lower price tag of \$26 billion. Johnson supported the bill. Her letter was signed by 11 Republicans.

Franks deferred his vote.

"Ninety-four percent of all Republicans supported my position and roughly 23 percent of the Democrats voted to kill the bill because we can do better," Franks said. "For the nation's sake, we must do better."

Speaking on the House floor Thursday, Franks said the bill was laden with pork projects and included "make-busy" programs, such as arts and crafts and night basketball. He also said it favored social workers over police officers.

"I would tip my hat off to the Congressional Black Caucus and the other liberals in Congress for having successfully orchestrated an extensive list of social spending programs on this crime bill," he said. "Lyndon Johnson would be amazed that we were able to resurrect his 'War on Poverty' in this manner."

The vote was 225-210 to block the bill from getting to the floor — with 58 Democrats join-

ing 167 Republicans in voting to sidetrack the measure.

"Republicans and moderate and conservative Democrats said to (President) Mr. Clinton, 'Take out the pork,'" Franks said in a phone interview Friday.

Franks said he wanted the bill open to scrutiny to eliminate what he considers excessive social welfare programs and multi-million dollar pork barrel projects that have nothing to do with crime but were added quietly onto the bill.

There are many aspects of the bill that Franks said he supports, including funding for more prisons and police officers.

But, Franks said, the Clinton-backed crime bill grew out of control.

"If they (Luby and Maloney) like pork, they'd love this bill because it's filled with pork — arts and crafts, basketball and things that have nothing to do with crime, things government should not be in the business of," he said.

If it had survived Thursday's vote, Franks said he would have supported the anti-crime measure.

"If the rule had passed, I would have supported the bill," Franks said. "I think we could have made this a better bill."

Andrea Foster of City News Service contributed to this report.

Republican 8/14

Killing a criminal bill

President Clinton and leading Democrats are denouncing Republicans and the National Rifle Association for derailing the colossal \$33 billion crime bill.

The House killed the package on a 225-210 procedural vote, but it could be resurrected in some form if the House leadership wishes.

Despite the shrill cries of the White House and Democratic leaders, the opposition to the bill did not come only from the GOP. Showing the unpopularity of the measure, 58 Democrats opposed the bill for various reasons.

A number of lawmakers voted to kill the bill because of their opposition to further gun-control measures in the form of a ban on so-called assault weapons. More importantly, many lawmakers determined that the crime package was really not about law enforcement at all, but about pork-barrel politics. As House Minority Whip Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., quipped recently, the crime bill quickly became the "the stimulus package in drag," referring to the president's failed bid last year for major new spending initiatives.

In general, the largest crime bill in history was simply the largest and most unwarranted incursion of the federal government into matters with which it has no business and is largely ineffective.

As most know, the nation is in the midst of a crime epidemic, which should be fought largely by state laws. Thus, strengthening the federal death penalty and passing a federal three-times-and-you're-out (well sort of) law would do little to stop most crimes.

It promised state and local governments \$11.1 billion and \$10.5 billion for law enforcement and new prisons, respectively. Democrats said it would fund 100,000 new local officers.

But the fact is that the funding wouldn't have covered even a quarter of those new hires. Studies show that each officer costs between \$65,000 and \$70,000 a year. The

bill funded the positions at less than \$15,000. And once the funding dried up, local government would be left holding the bag. The same can be said of the proposed funding for new prisons.

Instead of crafting a proposal that might actually have aided state and local governments, lawmakers were busy contributing to their own re-election bids by loading up all sorts of goodies to bring back home for the election season.

There was \$9 billion in so-called "crime prevention" programs, \$1.8 billion of which was for urban job and education programs -- as if job training and education aren't already funded at record levels.

Included in the \$9 billion was \$40 million for midnight basketball in poor urban areas, as well as dances, arts and crafts, and self-esteem courses. But talk about pork: Buried in the bill was \$10 million for a new criminal justice center at the alma mater of Rep. Jack Brooks, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

In some ways, the Democrats are actually savoring the defeat. It now gives them the chance to go out and say Republicans are the ones who are soft on crime. Indeed, we expect that will be the case in the 5th District, where Rep. Gary Franks will take on one of two Democratic candidates. Franks was the only Connecticut lawmaker to oppose the bill.

We don't expect, however, that the Democratic spin will hold much water.

One need only look at the littered landscape of the past 30 years to understand that Democrats, with their failed anti-crime and welfare agendas, have actually fertilized crime and moral decay. More welfare pork, gun control and ineffective federal programs are not the answer for America's crime epidemic, and voters know that.

Mr. Clinton's grand crime bill was all about the federal mugger emptying your pockets. Mr. Franks was right to oppose it.

Send us your chips

Hearing better for some

WASHINGTON — Awards time. Silver Ear awards go to people and groups that have been listening to the voice of the people. Tin Ear awards go to those who have not.

Let's get started.

- A Silver Ear for U.S. Rep. Christopher Shays, R-4th District.

Because of the persistence of Shays and Rep. Dick Swett, D-N.H., the House this week overwhelmingly passed legislation that would, for the first time in history, apply all private-sector workplace laws to Congress. The people are tired of Congress placing itself above the laws it expects everyone else to obey. This proposal, which still needs Senate approval, corrects a long-standing problem.

- A Tin Ear for Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy.

He accepted trips, tickets to athletic events and other favors from the nation's largest poultry producer, which his department is supposed to regulate. Espy says he has repaid the cost of all the goodies and

has done nothing wrong. A special prosecutor will investigate. Espy doesn't get it. The public expects a higher standard of ethics in its public officials.

- A Tin Ear to Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas. Gramm proudly declared he would do everything in his power to block passage of a Democratic health care reform proposal in the Senate. Asked if he was planning to filibuster, Gramm said he never used the word. Come on, senator. The public knows a filibuster when it sees one.

- A Silver Ear to Sen. John Chafee, R-R.I. While all but a handful of his Republican colleagues in the Senate are looking for ways to stall health care reform, Chafee is still trying to find a way to make it happen. The public should appreciate Chafee's efforts. Too bad he's not getting more help from his own side of the aisle.

- A Tin Ear to the Alliance for Managed Competition, a group of five of the nation's largest health insurers, including three based in Connecticut.

This week, the alliance embraced a

than others

This week, the agency, which builds and maintains U.S. spy satellites, had to apologize for burying the \$347 million budget for its new Virginia headquarters in other accounts. The result was that Congress had no idea what the new headquarters was costing. The intelligence community has still not gotten used to the fact that it is subject to oversight by Congress, the people's representatives.

- A Silver Ear to the town of Montclair, Va., in suburban Washington.

A week ago, Jeffrey Wynn and his family discovered the word "Jew" burned in their front yard, their mailbox uprooted and a car window smashed. Since then, however, the Wynns have been warmly embraced by their neighbors, most of them non-Jews. This expression of support is a reassuring sign that the vast majority of Americans are decent people who have no time for religious or racial bigotry.

The writer is the senior correspondent in The Courier's Washington bureau.

in Washington

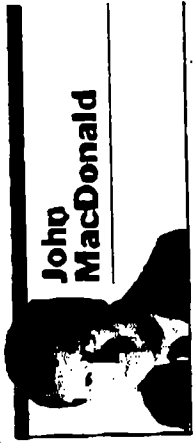
- A Silver Ear to Judge Abner J. Mikva, who has signed on to be the new White House counsel.

At age 68, Mikva was eligible for a well-deserved retirement. Instead, he agreed to take a tough job at the White House, which needs all the legal and ethical help it can get. Mikva will not even get a salary, which makes his willingness to serve all the more praiseworthy.

- A Tin Ear to Rep. Craig Washington, D-Texas.

Washington has all but disappeared from his \$133,600-a-year Capitol Hill job since being defeated in a March primary. According to the Congressional Quarterly Monitor, Washington's voting score for the year is 22 percent, the lowest for a House member in five years. Stunts like that give the public every right to be cynical about Congress.

- A Tin Ear to the National Reconnaissance Office, the nation's most-secret intelligence service.



John Macdonald

8/15/81
courtesy

health reform plan that its House sponsors said would leave 10 percent of the nation — more than 25 million people — uninsured in 2004. The public has to be wondering if that is the best the insurance industry can do.

- A Tin Ear to U.S. Rep. Gary Franks, R-5th District.

Earlier this year, Franks voted for the House version of the crime bill. Thursday, he backed a procedural move that blocked final consideration of the measure. Still, Franks said he would have voted for the bill had it cleared the procedural hurdle. The public, which wants congressional action on crime, can see through this politically motivated smoke screen.

Bad idea in Beaumont?

Democrats privately acknowledge they may have to cut back some programs to keep the Republicans in line. One likely candidate is \$10 million to establish a criminal justice research and education center at Lamar University.

The Beaumont, Texas, school is in the district of House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jack Brooks, D-Texas. Many Democrats said Friday they did not even realize that was in the bill. Brooks defended the project Friday, saying, "Just because it's in Beaumont doesn't mean it's a bad idea."

Of the bigger items, the most vulnerable initiatives are police corps and law enforcement scholarships, the local partnership act, and certain youth programs.

The scholarships of up to \$10,000 per year would be offered

in return for a four-year commitment to serve on a state or local police force. Many argue such incentives are unnecessary.

The partnership act believed to be in jeopardy would provide \$1.5 billion — including \$22 million to Connecticut — during the next five years for education, job and substance abuse programs.

"That's going to be a target," said Shays, because many lawmakers dislike the idea that local governments would have wide discretion in deciding how to spend the money.

The third set of under-the-gun programs would provide cultural alternatives for youths at risk and gang members. They include the midnight basketball programs, which supporters see as a way to get gang members off streets and into safer environments.

Such programs raise the point, said Rep. Gary A. Franks, R-5th District. What's needed is a stronger incentive for families to stay together, for parents to be responsible.

"Fathers should be responsible for knowing where their children are and what they're doing," he said.

"They don't know what it's like to live in cities," said Rep. Barbara B. Kennally, D-1st District, a chief deputy majority whip, "just as I don't have people driving around my district with guns in the back of their small trucks."

Democratic leaders estimated they lost about 40 votes because of the gun ban; thus, removing it from the bill would seem to assure its passage. But that maneuver is not that simple. There was a widespread belief in Congress that the National Rifle Association helped defeat the gun ban, and many do not want to accept the idea that the NRA beat them.

Probably the most offended was Rep. Charles E. Schumer, D-N.Y., who has led the fight for the gun ban. Schumer vowed to bring back the crime bill largely intact, with the ban, next week, a move House leaders would not rule out.

"We don't think compromise is necessary," Schumer said.

He said he thought Clinton's attitude would help his cause. Clinton has reiterated that any crime bill must have certain provisions that include the extra police, life sentences for third-time felons, the assault weapons ban and prevention programs.

Even if Clinton drops his bid for a gun ban, he could face a new challenge on the \$8 billion the bill would spend on prevention programs.

Republicans and some Democrats remain upset at the spending. Friday, Rep. Nancy L. Johnson, R-6th District, Rep. Christopher Shays, R-4th District, and nine other moderate Republicans sent Clinton a letter raising concerns about the money.

"Surely there is an opportunity to do a better job of integrating new programs with existing efforts in order to reduce the overall cost of the legislation," they said.

Clinton picked up the support of 11 Republicans Thursday, including Johnson and Shays, and it is crucial that he retain that support if another bill surfaces.

There were serious discussions about finding the eight votes that could turn Thursday's defeat around, but that would mean making concessions that could lose support elsewhere.

On the Republican side, party members sent a letter to President Clinton urging him to seek bipartisan support for a new crime bill. Many Democrats, however, scoffed at the idea of dickering with the very people who had scuttled 18 months of work.

What to tell constituents?

So, as legislators left for the weekend, they were not sure what to say to constituents about how they were dealing with what polls say is voters' top concern.

They could tell them that if a bill can be salvaged, some parts are likely to remain intact.

Connecticut originally stood to get at least \$223 million over six years; it is unlikely it would get that much in a new bill.

What the state is expected to get is \$130 million to help pay for 1,500 police officers over six years. It is also likely to see \$22 million for prison construction; \$17 million to help pay for police, prosecutors and victim services related to domestic violence; and \$4 million for shelters for battered women and their children.

Before any of that can happen, though, the gun ban issue must be resolved. Many legislators were willing Friday to remove the ban from the bill.

"The weapon ban is important, and it would be my first choice to have it in," said Rep. Sam Gejdenson, D-2nd District. "But even that ban had some holes. Getting the rest of the bill in place is very important."

He and other Democrats sat through a closed-door caucus Friday and heard conservative members argue why the gun ban was a problem. Gun ban supporters emerged convinced that gun ban foes were not budging.

Deal might add police in state

By DAVID LIGHTMAN
Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON — Connecticut probably will not get the entire \$223 million that Congress' crime bill once promised, but the state still stands a decent chance of getting money for 1,500 new police officers and prisons — if lawmakers can resurrect the crime bill.

But that is an enormous task. Friday, there was little agreement in Washington about how to reassemble Congress' delicately crafted, \$33.2 billion blend of crime prevention and protection programs.

The bill came crashing down Thursday when the House voted 225-210 not to let debate proceed. House leaders hoped for a new vote next week, but there was little consensus on what they could vote on.

"Different people like different parts, and if you take out some prevention money to please conservatives, you make it less likely liberals will be with you," said

Please see Efforts, Page A

Continued from Page 1

Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman, D-Conn. Ultimately, the Senate must vote on whatever the House approves.

The mood at the Capitol Friday was one of confusion and worry among lawmakers still trying to figure out why it was so easy to throw the political grenade that shattered their bill.

Most of the talk in the House involved removing the ban on assault weapons and "copy" weapons from the bill and seeking a vote on the rest. But many liberals liked that idea.

Vice president's bumps for Gejdenson

Second District Congressman facing tough re-election battle

By Lisa Marie Paris
Associated Press

VERNON — Vice President Al Gore was the star attraction Friday at a rally to drum up support for U.S. Rep. Sam Gejdenson, who narrowly won a sixth term two years ago and faces an equally tough fight this election year.

Dubbing him everything from "Mr. Export Promotion" to "Mr. Defense Controversion," Gore urged the crowd to return Gejdenson to Washington to help further the Clinton administration's push for universal health care, an anti-crime package and other initiatives in Congress and economic programs.

"Sam Gejdenson has been leading the way toward a sensible approach that solves these problems," Gore said. "Let's make sure he's there to finish the job."

Gejdenson, 46, won his sixth term in 1990 by less than 8,000 votes despite outpacing his Republican opponent, Edward W. Munster, with \$1 million to Munster's \$140,000.

This year, he is in a rematch with Munster. But unlike 1990, Gejdenson was unable to secure a cross-endorsement from a Connecticut Party. The party occupies the top line on the ballot and drew in about 40,000 of his 123,000 votes.

Instead, he's embroiled in a three-way race that includes ACP candidate David Bingham, a physician from Salem.

Gejdenson told reporters that he would have taken the ACP endorsement again if it was offered. Nevertheless, Gejdenson said he believes he benefits politically by having a third candidate on the ballot.

"The people may have a disagreement with me now but we now have two places to go. This divides the opposition," he said.

His campaign attracted about 500 people — who paid \$5 for tickets — to an asphalt parking lot overlooking a sea of parking cages and go-carts. Afterward, about 125 people paid at least \$250 each to attend a private fund-raising reception.

So far, Gejdenson's campaign has raised about \$390,000. It had \$134,000 on hand during the last reporting period in late June. It was not immediately known how much Friday's events raised for the campaign.

Gore's visit came the day after the U.S. House of Representatives scuttled the Clinton administration's efforts to pass an anti-crime bill. It was killed on a procedural motion by a 225-210 vote.

Both Gore and Gejdenson expressed optimism that the package will eventually gain passage.

In perhaps his most passionate moment during the rally, Gore said he needed Gejdenson to stay in the House to ensure that the crime package and other similar initiatives — such as health care reform — are enacted.

"Maybe they don't understand how serious crime has gotten in this country," Gore said of members of Congress. "Maybe they're so out of touch, they don't understand how you feel."

"It is time that Congress puts politics aside and partisanship aside, and help the American public fight against violent crime," he said. "Sam Gejdenson led the way in favor of this anti-crime bill."

The bill would have banned 19 assault-style weapons, mandated imprisonment for three-time felons and funneled about \$223 million for Connecticut alone for a wide range of crime programs, including extra police protection.

Five of Connecticut's six House members voted in favor of the package. U.S. Rep. Gary Franks, R-Conn., was the lone opponent out of the state's delegation.

"We're obviously frustrated," Gejdenson said of the outcome, noting that 77 percent of the House's Democrats and 6 percent of its Republican members voted in favor of the bill. "If we can just tweak that up on either side, we can pass it."

Besides putting the spotlight on Gejdenson's re-election effort, the rally allowed Gore and Gejdenson to highlight changes they say have tak-



Vice President Al Gore campaigns Friday in Vernon, stamping for health care, the crime bill and Rep. Sam Gejdenson.

en place since Clinton took office in early 1991.

The deficit has been reduced 40 percent, there's growing peace in the Middle East and 4.1 million new jobs have been created. Still, the administration has struggled in its efforts to pass the crime bill and health-care reform.

However, some Democratic candidates across the country have been reluctant to link themselves too closely with Clinton. Indeed, Clinton's own pollster, Stanley Greenberg, has suggested that members of Congress

might not want to be too closely tied to Clinton during their campaigns.

But such repudiations do not appear to crop up with Gore.

"Al Gore wasn't in this," said Democratic gubernatorial candidate William E. Curry, who also uses Greenberg for polling. "Al Gore is universally respected and admired by the American people."

Gejdenson said he would have no such qualms having Clinton stamp for him as well. Earlier this year, Clinton marched down in Norwich — also part of Gejdenson's sprawling

Protesters treatment

By Stret Douthart
Associated Press

HARTFORD — Two protesters gathered outside state Capitol Friday to decry their treatment as an incoherent police response to the death of a 14-year-old boy.

The protest, which began at the Capitol and proceeded to the Superior Court, was organized by the city's community-based Health Council.

Demonstrators said they were spurred by inadequate response to the recent death of Lydia Beitez, a 14-year-old who drowned in a section of Farmington River in Bloomfield.

A small army of law enforcement officers was on hand responding to a State Capitol alert that members of a street gang would take part in a protest.

But most of the march passed to be woken and told who said they were friends of the boy, whose body wasn't recovered until July 11, three days after he drowned.

"The police didn't do what Eddie Dipini, the guy who found the body, said they should have done. It took them an hour and a half to respond to our 911 call and when they came they weren't bringing any divers although we knew anatomy had drowned the river."

Dipini was among the protesters who marched through streets chanting, "No Just Peace," and "Stop The Against The Poor."

State Rep. Eli Castro, a Democrat, joined the protest. So did the heavy police presence typical of the way authorities view the Hispanic community.

"Do you see any gang members here?" she asked a reporter. "Do you see any violence?"

On Thursday, Sgt. A. Murphy, who heads the special police force, issued a statement that rally participants

Local officials, activists decry crime bill death

By Karla Schuster
Register Staff

Local officials and community activists fired back at Congress Friday, charging lawmakers who killed the Clinton crime bill with putting politics before safety.

"Young people are getting killed every day of the week and these people (lawmakers) have the audacity to turn their back on them?" said Guilford Police Chief Kenneth Cruz, president of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association.

Joan Carroll, a Fair Haven community activist, said she was furious at Congress' action.

"Let them come and live in my neighborhood for a week and then let's see how they vote," said Carroll. "It's obvious that they're not aware of what's going on. They've got to be ignorant."

Carroll attributed the bill's defeat to the powerful gun lobby and lawmakers "who have no conscience."

An angry President Clinton on Friday took his case to the National Association of Police Organizations in Minnesota and vowed to fight to resurrect some form of the bill.

The House of Representatives Thursday blocked the \$33.2 billion crime bill from coming to the floor by a 225-210

margin.

Democratic lawmakers resolved Friday to resuscitate the measure, discussing whether to tinker with the ban on assault-style weapons and scrap some crime-prevention projects that had been ridiculed by Republicans as "pork" spending. Majority Leader Richard Gephardt said the House would take up the bill again late next week.

Republicans worried aloud that they would be blamed for killing the legislation. Separately, they asked Clinton to meet with them to craft a compromise. However, Democratic leaders worked furiously to line up enough votes from among 58 Democrats who deserted on Thursday.

New Haven Mayor John DeStefano Jr. also blasted Congress, saying the vote Thursday by the House of Representatives will deal a bloody blow to the nation's cities.

"There were a lot of provisions in that bill that were important to New Haven and other urban centers," DeStefano said Friday.

Please see Crime, Page A2

Is midnight basketball "pork" or crime prevention?

See Page A12

Continued from Page A1

"By defeating this bill, Congress leaves cities once again without any real means to address the critical and urgent problems we are facing," he said. "To say that I am disappointed is an understatement."

The six-year legislation would have put 100,000 more police officers on the street, supporters say, and banned many assault-type weapons, provided billions for prisons and crime prevention, made more than 50 additional crimes subject to the death penalty and allowed life sentences for some third-time felons.

Chief Cruz spat Friday working the phones and crafting a letter to his organization's membership urging all the state's police chiefs to follow Clinton's lead.

One of his first calls was to U.S. Rep. Gary Franks, D-S, a Republican from Waterbury and the only member of the state delegation to vote to kill the crime bill.

"There's going to be a lot of them (lawmakers) coming back home who'll be asked to justify what they did and I wish them well," Cruz said.

Bridgport Deputy Police Chief Robert Cafferty, a 44-year veteran of that force, said the extra cops

the bill would provide will be sorely missed in the Park City.

But Cafferty also laid blame at Clinton's door, saying the president — despite his fierce lobbying — didn't get the job done.

"I'm disappointed that we're not going to get that help, that manpower. What we need is another Abe Lincoln or Franklin D. Roosevelt — they had the doggedness and tenacity for this fight," Cafferty said.

"But I'm optimistic that we'll get some kind of crime bill because people want it. There's a hue and cry for safer streets."

August Rodriguez, a Career

High School student and president of the Young Adult Police Commissioners, said he's hoping the bill will eventually pass. "Our city is in economic trouble; we need all the help we get," he said.

Rodriguez said he's familiar with the effect of crime in Haven.

"I have friends and families who've been victims, and talked to the people committing crimes," he said. "The crime would put 60 more cops in Haven. We need that."

The Associated Press contributed this story.

from: Winekauf for Congress

1A-01

Iowans defend votes in House on crime bill

By David Lynch
Gazette Washington reporter

WASHINGTON — House members from Iowa defended their vote Friday against a procedural motion that would have brought anti-crime legislation to the floor, saying the so-called compromise package was loaded with social spending they did not vote for when the bill was first approved.

"I favor a tough bill on crime," Rep. Jim Leach, R-Iowa, said in a statement released by his office, "but object to the majority party's efforts to bust the budget on special programs under the guise of crime legislation . . .

"I have not agreed with my party's perspective on several key issues in this bill, but I believe no legislation should be brought to the floor without fair input from all sides."

Glen Winekauf, the North Liberty Democrat challenging Leach for re-election, issued a press release criticizing Leach for "his lack of leadership on the issue."

He said communities in the 1st District could have benefited from the crime-fighting funds in the legislation.

Elaine Baxter, the Iowa secretary of state who is challenging Rep. Jim Lightfoot, R-Iowa, for the 3rd District seat, charged that Lightfoot's vote was tainted by his acceptance of more than \$50,000 in campaign contributions from the National Rifle Association since he was first elected to Congress in 1974.

"It's Elaine's style to bitch and complain without offering any alternatives," Lightfoot said in an interview off the House floor Friday afternoon.

He said it is time for anti-crime legislation, and he backed Republican congressional leadership efforts to arrange for a reconsideration of the legislation, with the Republicans given an opportunity to make changes in the compromise.

Rep. Jim Nussle, R-Iowa, said

Rep. Jim Nussle, R-Iowa, said he couldn't vote for the compromise because it was "not tough enough on crime. This crime bill is too much of a 'feel good' measure that allows representatives to go home to their districts and tell people they solved the crime problem."

"In my judgment, the best way to address the core causes of crime is to strengthen families, reform welfare and effectively use deterrents," Nussle said.

Former Democratic Rep. Dave Nagle of Cedar Falls, who is running against Nussle, said he has changed his position on the crime bill after spending two years back in Iowa.

Nagle said the local law enforcement officers he has talked with tell him "they are being outgunned" by the criminals and they need help from Washington.

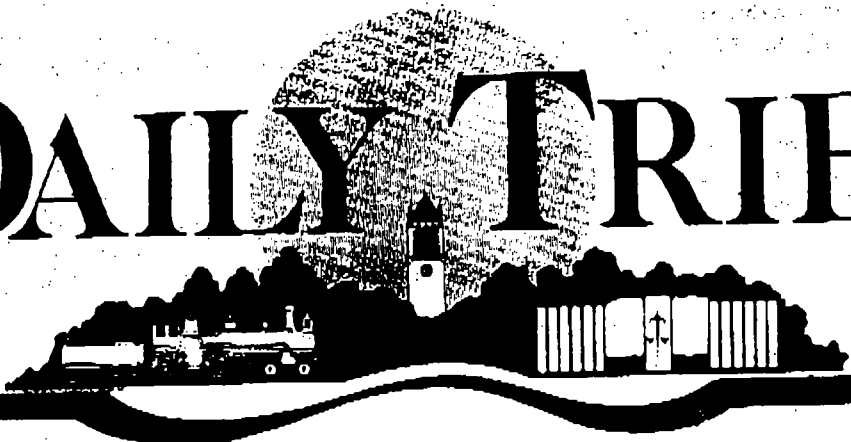
He now supports the gun ban and the crime bill.

Cedar Rapids Gazette
Sat. Aug. 13

We will be issuing another press release, & holding another press conference later this ~~week~~ week. We will send you a copy of the release. There may have been other coverage on Sat. We're trying to find what was in the Clinton and Quad City papers, we'll let you know. Also was 1st of radio

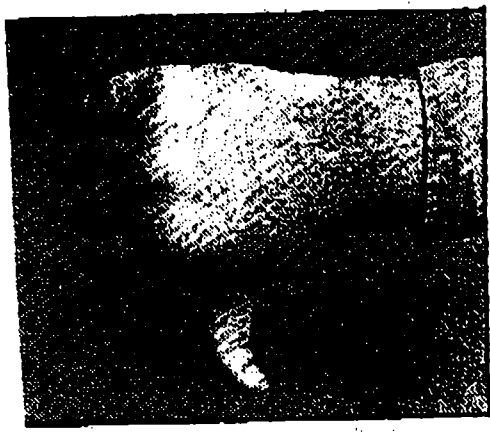
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THE DAILY TRIBUNE



COMMENTARY

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It's a crime — Jim Ross Lightfoot talks a good game on fighting crime, but when it comes time to vote, he always sides with that gun-sellers' lobby, the National Rifle Association. His vote this week to keep the crime bill from coming to a vote in the House is just another example that he's lost touch with real people.

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Manzullo called 'soft on crime'

■ Sullivan zeroes in: Rep. Don Manzullo says he voted against a recent crime bill because of shortcomings in funding criteria.

By **CHRIS GREEN**
The Register Star

ROCKFORD — Democrat Pete Sullivan zeroed in Thursday on U.S. Rep. Don Manzullo's vote last week against the House crime bill, saying the vote suggests his November election opponent is "soft on crime."

Sullivan said at a campaign press conference he finds Manzullo's vote against the bill both "perplexing and confusing."

"The only conclusion that one can draw is that Mr. Manzullo is not serious about fighting crime," Sullivan said.

Manzullo's staff responded to the charge by re-issuing a written statement in which the 16th District congressman said he voted against the crime bill because of shortcomings in its funding criteria as well as changes softening sentences for drug offenders.

"The bill retroactively repeals the minimum mandatory sentence for drug offenders so that the vast majority of these drug offenders will be eligible to receive early release from prison," Manzullo said.

Sullivan said major provisions of the crime bill include:

- Authorizing \$3.45 billion in federal grants to provide for 50,000 officers.
- Expanding the number of crimes that fall under the death penalty.
- Mandating life imprisonment for anyone convicted of a

CAMPAIGN '94



Pete Sullivan

Rep. Don Manzullo

third felony, including violent crimes and serious offenses.

■ Providing grants to states for prison construction and boot camps. The bill also includes funds for states to develop new, alternative punishments for juvenile offenders.

"The increase of police officers on the beat, expansion of the death penalty and life sentences for repeat offenders will certainly have a deterrent effect on criminals," Sullivan said.

Rockford and other communities in the 16th District are awaiting approval of applications for funding to provide for more police officers, Manzullo said.

He said Rockford already has been passed over in two rounds of funding because the city does not meet the selection criteria and may be passed over again.

"We have no guarantee the new money for funds in this crime bill will use a more appropriate formula," Manzullo said.

He also said the crime bill as written eliminates "truth in sentencing" and has no provisions to stop the multiple appeals of convicted murders.

A final version of the bill will be voted on by the end of May.

Sullivan: Manzullo 'soft on crime'

Representative says he voted against crime bill because it was flawed

By John Roszkowski
Journal-Standard Reporter

FREEPORT — In one of the first shots of the campaign, Democratic congressional candidate Pete Sullivan on Thursday blasted incumbent U.S. Rep. Don Manzullo for voting against the federal crime bill.

Manzullo, R-Egan, voted last week against the crime bill, which passed the House 285-141. At a press conference in Rockford Thursday, Sullivan called Manzullo's opposition to the bill "perplexing and confusing."

"I think it indicates Mr. Manzullo is not serious about combating violent crime," said Sullivan, a Roscoe attorney, in a telephone interview after the press conference. "When you boil it all down, the only conclusion you can come up with is he is soft on crime. This is the most comprehensive crime bill that the

“ The fact is he got most of what he wanted. Because he didn't get 100 percent of what he wanted, he voted against it. ”

Pete Sullivan, Democratic candidate for Congress

House of Representatives has ever passed and it's the largest commitment of the federal government ever to fighting crime."

Sullivan said the bill contained several strong provisions for fighting crime, such as federal grants to put more police officers on the streets, expanded use of the death penalty, additional money for prison construction and crime prevention programs, and mandatory life sentences for anyone convicted of a third felony including violent crimes and drug offenses.

Manzullo denied being soft on crime and said the House bill had some serious flaws.

"My response is the anti-crime vote was a no vote on this version of the bill because the bill eliminated mandatory minimum

sentences for persons convicted of drug trafficking," Manzullo said. "I cannot in all good conscience vote for a bill that does that. It makes eligible for early release 16,000 persons convicted of drug trafficking offenses. I believe that the only message to send to traffickers is, 'You go to prison, period.'"

Manzullo added he was concerned about various other aspects of the bill. He said the legislation failed to clearly spell out the formula by which community policing grants would be awarded and there was no guarantee cities like Freeport or Rockford would get more funding for police officers. Also, the bill contained no provisions to stop multiple appeals of convicted

murderers like John Wayne Gacy, according to Manzullo.

He said the bill still has to be voted on by the Senate and go through a House-Senate conference committee before the final version will be approved by Congress. "We're looking for something we can live with," he said.

But Sullivan said he thinks the bill already goes "a long way toward helping with the crime problem we presently face."

He said Manzullo's claim that the bill will result in the early release of drug traffickers is misleading. What it does is give judges more discretion in sentencing certain non-violent drug offenders, Sullivan said, but still provides that those individuals must serve a minimum of two years in prison.

Sullivan said Manzullo indicated in an earlier statement that "there were a lot of good provisions in the crime bill."

"The fact is he got most of what he wanted," Sullivan said. "Because he didn't get 100 percent of what he wanted, he voted against it. That doesn't make sense."

MASSACHUSETTS

Dems: Torkildsen caved in to gun lobby

By SEAN LEONARD
News staff

SALEM Republican U.S. Rep. Peter Torkildsen's vote against a motion Thursday night to bring the crime bill to the House floor continued to draw fire from Democrats Friday, while local GOP members say Torkildsen made the right decision.

Torkildsen was the only member of the Massachusetts delegation to vote against the motion, defeated 255-210, which effectively blocked passage of the \$33.2 billion anti crime package that would have placed 100,000 new police officers on the streets, expanded the death penalty, and provided millions of dollars in law enforcement grants and for construction of prisons and boot camps.

While Torkildsen maintains he supports all of those provisions, he said he was concerned that the bill reported out of the House-Senate conference committee included too many "irrelevant spending" measures. He said Friday, however, that if the bill does come up for a vote before the end of the session, he will vote in favor of it.

Torkildsen says the primary reason he voted against the rules motion is because it would have restricted debate or amendments to the crime bill, making it impossible to strike objectionable portions of the legislation that have nothing to do with crime prevention.

Salem City Councilor and 2nd Essex state senate candidate Jane Stirgwolt, who served as chairman of Torkildsen's campaign for Congress two years ago, stood by the freshman congressman Friday.

"I have a lot of respect for the congressman for taking the position he did," Stirgwolt said. She accused Democratic lawmakers of consistently tacking on too many irrelevant spending items to major legislation. "Quite frankly, they have to stop doing business the way they do," she said.

Stirgwolt pointed out that Thursday night's vote in the House was on a procedural motion only, and said she is confident the crime bill will be enacted by the end of the year.

"I hope all of the members of Congress continue to make it a better bill ... It's very important that the crime bill is passed this year. I would hope it would come forward again, in some other form, and pass," Stirgwolt declared.

But national Democratic Party leaders, senior members of the Bay State delegation, state law enforcement officials and the four local Democrats vying for Torkildsen's seat continued to blast the congressman for his vote, accusing him of caving in to pressure from the Republican leadership and the powerful gun lobby.

"Representative Torkildsen withered in the face of Republican and special interest pressure," said Democratic National Committee chairman David Wilhelm in a release Friday.

Locally, Salem lawyer John Tierney, one of the four Democrats vying for the Sixth District seat, launched an attack on the incumbent over the crime bill vote.

They accuse Torkildsen of voting to block the bill because it included a ban on assault weapons, which the NRA opposes. Torkildsen maintains however he will vote in favor of the bill - with the assault weapons ban - if it comes before the House.

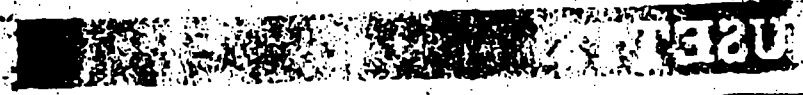
His opponents say they don't believe him.

"Days ago, I predicted that Peter Torkildsen would figure out some excuse to back out of this tough vote, and his indefensible, unbelievable and unconscionable actions proved me right," Tierney said.

Former Beverly mayor Jack Monahan, another of the Democrats vying for the Sixth District seat, also issued a release in response to the crime bill vote: "Mr. Torkildsen has just sold out the people of his district to the gun lobby," he said.

Former Amesbury state senator Nick Costello called Torkildsen's explanation for voting against the rules motion "nonsense." The good the bill would have done, Costello said, should have far outweighed the incumbent's concern about spending measures tacked to it. "He is more interested in gridlock than anything else," Costello said.

MA-06



NELSON K. BENTON III, Managing Editor

OUR VIEW by abli.

Torkildsen shoots self politically by casting vote against crime bill

U.S. Rep. Peter Torkildsen is expecting a lot from his constituents when he asks that they support his decision to vote against bringing the anti-crime package to the House floor due to a procedural flaw.

Residents of the 6th District, like people everywhere, are concerned about the rising tide of violence in this country and want something done about it.

The crime bill before Congress, which would provide funds for cities and towns to hire additional police officers and for states to build more prison space, and at the same time increase the penalties for the most heinous types of crime, represents a good start.

In fact, Torkildsen says he intends to vote for the measure once those procedural questions are resolved. But he insists he could not vote for a rule that would require, as is often the case,

an up-or-down vote on the bill that emerged from a House-Senate conference.

The freshman congressman just can't seem to get it through his head that most people in his district favor a ban on those firearms whose only function is to kill lots of people very quickly.

Unfortunately, from here, Torkildsen appears to have been duped once again by the National Rifle Association which objects vehemently to provisions in the bill banning certain types of assault weapons. The procedural issue was merely a convenient excuse advanced by the NRA and the Republican leadership to vote against the bill

MA-06

The freshman congressman just can't seem to get it through his head that most people in his district favor a ban on those big guns whose only function is to kill lots of people very quickly. His Democratic opponents were delighted when Torikildsen voted against the assault weapons ban when it first came before the House several months ago, and no doubt are chuckling with glee over the fact that Thursday the incumbent was the only member of the Massachusetts delegation to vote against bringing the crime bill, of which the weapons ban is a part, to the House floor.

Even Torikildsen's fellow Republican Rep. Peter Dutoit of Sorensbury, saw it in his and his constituents' interests to move the legislation forward.

The congressman's insistence that he be allowed to vote against certain pork-barrel provisions in the bill just doesn't fly given the fact that he himself is down there spending money on projects like the South Essex Sewerage District's secondary treatment plant and the Salem Maritime National Historic Site which might be considered equally dispensable in the eyes of some of his colleagues.

Given his recent problems with use of the franking privilege, which could end up costing him both personally and in terms of political capital, Torikildsen needed a win here. But this vote was a loser.

Nelson K. Benton III, Managing Editor

Salem Evening News
8/13/94

MA-06

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EDITORIALS

Torkildsen wrong on crime bill vote

The disappointment felt throughout the country on the failure of Congress to enact a long-awaited anti-crime package is being most keenly felt in our own area because of the stance taken by the 6th District's U.S. Rep. Peter Torkildsen, the only member of the Bay State delegation to oppose the measure.

His posture on this matter is plainly unacceptable and is especially difficult to justify since he had indicated earlier that he supported the legislation. On the other hand, it may be argued that his position is a consistent one, given that he was the only Massachusetts congressman to oppose a national ban on assault weapons.

By his latest action, Rep. Torkildsen not only stands as oblivious and/or unresponsive to the public safety needs of his constituents but also as insensitive to their disgust at the partisan-based gridlock that has rendered Congress ineffectual on one issue after another.

His feeble excuse that the legislation was laden by Democrats with "pork" was totally lacking in specificity and credibility. Even a candid confession that his vote was attributable to strong National Rifle Association lobbying would be preferable to the purely partisan generalizations Rep. Torkildsen so lamely offered.

The anti-crime bill was not perfect. Few measures that make their way through the Capitol Hill process are that. But as Attorney General L. Scott Marshbarger said, it was the most comprehensive anti-crime bill ever crafted. It was a bill that would have placed 100,000 badly needed policemen on the streets. It was a bill that addressed juvenile delinquency and prison construction funding.

It was something that Lynn, the 6th Congressional District and the whole country needed and deserved to have.

8/13/94

The Shelby Star

Date

8/12

Page No.

1A

Taylor: Crime bill proposal was 'bogus'; Lauterer: Defeat is 'national disgrace'

From staff reports

Opponents in North Carolina's 12th Congressional District were quick to get their press releases and fax machines in gear Thursday night to praise or condemn Congress's defeat of the crime bill.

In Washington, Congressman Charles Taylor, a Republican, called the proposal "bogus" and said its defeat clears the way to "move on to real crime control."

In Asheville, Democratic opponent Maggie Lauterer chastised the vote. "This is not gridlock; this inaction is a national disgrace," she said.

Taylor attacked the proposal for containing "\$9 billion worth of failed Great Society social spending, including midnight sports leagues which (would) only be funded if the participants ... have a high incidence of HIV."

He said, "It's time for a crime bill which protects our constitutional rights, puts criminals in prison and keeps



Taylor



Lauterer

them there to serve their full sentences."

Lauterer countered that "every day that Congress plays politics, there are 85 more murders, 4,000 more violent crimes and 8,000 more homes broken into. How many more days can we take? If these Democrats and Republicans can't make the tough decisions ... they should go home."

She said she backed the bill because of its "three strikes you're out" statute and funding for 100,000 new police officers, among other provisions.

NC-11

House stops crime bill on procedural vote

AP AND STAFF REPORTS

WASHINGTON - The House rejected a sweeping \$51.2 billion anti-crime bill Thursday in a chaotic vote that forced its leaders to immediately reassess the legislative agenda amid harshly partisan finger-pointing.

Defeat of the wide-ranging measure was a setback for President Clinton, who had lobbied



Crime Bill

furiously for its passage. The bill among other things would have paid for an additional 100,000 cops and would have banned several categories of assault-style weapons.

Opponents of the bill held sway on a parliamentary ballot that had to suc-

ceed before the House could take a final, definitive vote. Lawmakers voted 225-216 to defeat a rule that would have allowed the bill to advance toward passage.

U.S. Rep. Charles Taylor, a Broward Republican, voted against the ballot that would have allowed a final vote on the crime bill. He said he was ready to move on to "resume the effort to pass

an effective crime bill, not one just designed to make headlines."

"Now that all the politicians and candidates have held their press conferences with police officers provide colorful backdrops, it's time for a crime bill which protects our constitutional rights, puts criminals in prison and keeps them

See crime on page 8A

Crime

Continued from page 8A

to serve their full sentence," Taylor said in a written statement.

The Asheville Citizen-Times could not reach U.S. Rep. Cass Ballenger, a Hickory Republican, for comment Thursday night.

Taylor's challenger in the November election, Democrat Maggie Lauterer, issued a statement Thursday night that criticized the vote.

"This is not gridlock, this inaction is a national disgrace," Lauterer said in the statement. "Every day that Congress plays politics, there are 65 more murders, 4,100 more violent crimes and 8,000 more homes broken into."

How many more days can we take?"

Clinton had called the vote the toughest of his kind in the annals of Congress. He appealed publicly for members to support the legislation not long before the climactic vote.

High tension in the chamber accompanied members' statements preceding the vote on the rule. So bitter were the feelings that, at the conclusion of the vote when the bill was thwarted, Democrats objected when House Republican Whip Newt Gingrich of Georgia tried to speak.

House Republican Leader Robert Michel of Illinois called the bill an "unholy trinity of pork, pandering and partisanship."

House Speaker Thomas Foley in a rare speech on the floor pleaded, "Let us not be a helpless giant in response to the demands



Rep. Taylor



Lauterer

and the concerns of our people. ... The society that cannot protect the physical security of their citizens is a pretty useless society, whatever about our accomplishments."

Keeping the crime bill from coming to the floor were 167 Republicans and 88 Democrats. Voting for the bill were 198 Democrats, 11 Republicans and 1 inde-

pendent.

Wide approval of the crime bill itself had been expected - if it could have gotten to the House floor. The critical vote was the first one - on the "rule" that restricts amendments and sets time limits for debate.

Supporters ran into snags shortly before the bill was to come to the floor as Republicans support ebbed away, said Rep. Bill Richardson of New Mexico, the Democratic deputy whip.

Particularly damaging, said Richardson and bill supporter Rep. Christopher Shays, R-Conn., was a resolution sent Wednesday by the Republican National Committee to all 98 GOP members who supported the firestorm ban in a separate 208-216 victory in May.

The resolution of the Alaskan Republican Party called for the

RNC to "deny all Republican funding to any and all of those 38 congressmen should they seek re-election" and to "seek alternative funding for Republican candidates for the seats of those congressmen."

That pressure and "very intensive" phone calling to their offices Wednesday and Thursday "have been very difficult for some of the members," Shays said.

Rules votes often follow party lines, with Republicans traditionally in opposition and majority Democrats in favor.

By this time, Republican opponents were joined by an unlikely coalition of Democrats - gun-control opponents as well as black lawmakers opposed to the bill's more than 50 new death penalties and its failure to include a provision making it easier to prove racial discrimination in capital cases.

VOICE OF THE MOUNTAINS

CITIZEN-TIMES

ASHEVILLE

Procedural vote shoots down crime bill

From AP and Staff Reports
WASHINGTON — Acting in dramatic fashion Thursday, the House dismissed a sweeping \$33 billion anti-crime bill in a vote that forced stunned Democratic leaders into angry retreat. It was a stinging setback to President Clinton and sharpened pre-election partisan passions on Capitol Hill.

"I worked my heart out and did everything I could," Clinton said in reaction. "On this day, the NRA (National Rifle Association) and the Republican leadership had their way."

Clinton immediately scheduled a trip to

dry to Minneapolis for an appearance before a convention of the 200,000-member National Association of Police Officer in an effort to resurrect the bill. And he called a morning Cabinet meeting, hoping to ignite some momentum for his health care legislation.

An unlikely coalition of Republicans, gun-control opponents and black lawmakers prevailed 225-210 in a parliamentary move that prevented the House from actually voting on the crime bill itself.

U.S. Rep. Charles Taylor, R-Brevard, hailed the House of Representative's vote in a news release his office issued shortly after the vote.

"Today's vote shows those of us who favor real crime control are willing to take the time and make the effort to pass an effective Crime Bill, not one just designed to make headlines," he said.

"Now that all the politicians and candidates have held their press conferences with police officers providing colorful backdrops, it's time for a crime bill which protects our constitutional rights, puts criminals in prison and keeps them there to serve their full sentence."

But Maggie Lauterer, Taylor's Democrat opponent in the 11th District Congressional race, criticized Congress for voting to keep the bill from proceeding.

"This is not gridlock, this inaction is a national disgrace," she said in a written statement. "Every day that Congress plays politics, there are 65 more murders, 4,000 more violent crimes and 8,000 more homes broken into. How many more days can we take? If these Democrats and Republicans can't make the tough decisions we need, they should go home."

Lauterer also criticized Taylor for voting against the bill and challenged him to "lead, follow or get out of the way."

"When it came time for our congressman to stand tall and protect us, he went out the back door," she said.

PROCEDURAL continues on page 15A

Continued from page 1A

The legislation would have provided \$33.2 billion for an additional 100,000 police officers, prisons, crime-prevention measures and an especially controversial ban on assault-style firearms.

Moments after the House rejected a "rule" which would have allowed for a yes-or-no vote on the bill itself, Clinton went before reporters. "They have failed the American people," he said.

The president's opponents included 167 Republicans and 58 Democratic deserters. Voting for the bill were 198 Democrats, 11 Republicans and 1 independent. While lambasting the gun lobby and Republicans, Clinton seemed to defend black lawmakers whose opposition was based on capital punishment concerns.

The National Rifle Association, which in May lost a firearms ban vote in the House by just two votes, called Thursday's action a "step ahead for real safety and genuine security."

"We Americans want precisely the opposite of what politicians offered them" said Tanya K. Metaksa,

the NRA's chief lobbyist. "We want prisons, not pork, police, not empty promises, crime fighters, not social workers."

Key Democratic leaders huddled after the vote amid indications the House might recess before returning to the crime bill or taking up health legislation. Clinton ridiculed the notion, insisting that Congress stay in session until it can pass a crime bill.

"Health care is not going to take a vacation either," he said, a pointed reference to the other legislation that has been a top priority for Clinton and Democratic congressional leaders. Clinton has been struggling to bring health care to a vote in the House, too.

The president said he found it galling that the crime bill was brushed aside or a "procedural trick."

Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., one of the authors of the assault weapons ban, said passing a crime bill this year was still a possibility "if the American people really voice their concerns."

Republicans said they were willing to open negotiations on changing the package to win sufficient votes.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 1994

Times-News

Serving The Pine Ridge Since 1881 • Henderson, Transylvania and Polk Counties

NC-11

Lincoln Star, Aug. 15

NE-01

Assault weapons ban should be retained

The crime bill had its flaws. A ban on assault weapons wasn't one of them, however.

But this small item helped bring down the \$33.7 billion crime bill last week.

The crime bill was a massive package of the punitive and the preventive.

The Washington Post lamented that late-session crime packages are often chances to "showboat" on crime, chock full of thoughtless, vindictive provisions. This bill had plenty of that.

More bravado than bravery, many of its tough measures would only minimally affect crime where it hits most, since relatively few of these crimes are federal in nature and therefore reachable by federal statutes.

Particularly onerous was the expansion of the death penalty to 60 federal crimes, such as the killing of chicken inspectors.

BUT THE BILL offered some true gems, like the provision for 100,000 more police officers and other aid for crime prevention measures at a level where it would have some effect, locally. The 100,000 more cops provision was an expansion of the program through which Lincoln was recently able to add 15 more cops, so Lincolmites can appreciate the value of this program.

The modest ban on assault weapons was also a prime feature.

The shrill opposition to any form of gun control is wearing quite thin. After all, what's the use of assault weapons? It isn't hunting deer.

According to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms many of the 19 assault weapons the crime bill identifies by name rank in the top 10 of all guns traced to criminal activity. Yet these are but 1 percent of the guns circulating in the U.S.

A ban on 1 percent of the millions of guns circulating in the United States is not confiscatory by any stretch of the imagination.

And the crime bill exempted by name nearly 700 other firearms.

Seven hundred.

ASSAULT WEAPONS are designed for rapid fire, close quarter shooting at humans. Don't take our word for it. Those are the words of the ATF. "Mass-produced mayhem" is another ATF description.

Republicans who supported the ban in a May vote were visited with a missive from the Republican National Committee. It was a resolution of the Alaskan Republican Party for the RNC to "deny all Republican funding to any and all of those 38 congressmen should they seek re-election" and to "seek alternative real Republican candidates for the seats of those congressmen."

Talk about heavy ammunition. This kind of pressure on congressmen prepared to vote their constituents' desires (most Americans support some sort of gun control) was itself an assault.

House leaders vowed to resurrect the crime bill. If they bring it back without gun control that will be a real crime, legislation courtesy of the National Rifle Association.

Journal
Lincoln Star, Aug. 13

Combs criticizes Bereuter's vote to kill crime bill

Democratic congressional nominee Patrick Combs said Friday that Republican Rep. Doug Bereuter "listened to special interests" when he voted to kill the omnibus crime bill in the House this week.

The House prevented a vote on the bill by defeating a required procedural motion.

"The people of Nebraska want action now to fight crime, not gridlock," Combs said.

"If Nebraskans had a vote on this

piece of legislation, it would have passed overwhelmingly."

Combs said he supported the crime bill's provisions to fund 100,000 new police officers, build additional prisons and fund programs to combat violence against women.

"The harsher penalties for gang-related crimes and funding school activities for at-risk youths attack these encroaching problems here in the 1st District," he said.

Bereuter said the bill is "a costly,

big-government, throw-money-at-the-problem approach that will do little to solve the nation's crime problem."

Rather, he said, it is "a gigantic \$33 billion boondoggle (filled with) incredible examples of pork-barrel spending."

The measure "does not address many of the serious crime problems faced by so many Americans every day," Bereuter said.

WALT HAASELSMAN

NY-03

The new GOP: Soft on crime?

SAY THIS FOR Bill Clinton: He wasted little time whining and licking his considerable wounds after that stunning crime bill knockdown in Congress. The President came back swinging, roaring to a police group in Minneapolis that the \$30 billion offensive was far from dead. And he made a vow that should hearten outraged New Yorkers and the nation: The bill will be resurrected.

Mayor Giuliani flew with Clinton to Minnesota — a bipartisan gesture that said it all about uniting to fight for what's important. But maybe Giuliani should also fly to Staten Island — home of fellow Republican Susan Molinari, who, along with Manhattan Democrat Charles Rangel, were the only two city representatives who voted to kill a bill that included \$450 million to fund thousands of city cops.

Altogether, the city stands to gain some \$800 million under the bill, money that would also pay for jail cells, police modernization and crime prevention programs. Molinari's excuse for tossing all of that and the new cops away? The bill didn't contain two last-minute pet provisions concerning sex offenders. The real deal. She'd rather tie her political future to House GOP Whip Newt Gingrich than to concerns of her district.

Gloating after the crime bill went down, Gingrich called the vote a lesson to Clinton on "where the American people are and where the Congress is." He's dead wrong, at least when it comes to average Americans living anywhere near crime. Note to Newt: Here in New York City, only criminals like, and use, assault weapons. Here in crime-pocked New York, and elsewhere, putting more cops on the street is only part of the anti-crime equation. Reasonable community programs to get kids off the street into productive activities are also necessary weapons in the war against crime.

The National Rifle Association, out-of-touch GOP partisans and representatives such as Rangel, who opposes expansion of the death penalty and omission of the Racial Justice Act, kept this worthy if imperfect bill from the House floor. New York-area residents should take note of some of the others who blocked even honest debate: Long Island Republicans Rick Lazio, David Levy and Peter King. Their priorities are skewed. Only 11 Republicans had the courage to vote yes.

The pressures — especially from the NRA and Republicans concerned with prevention-program "pork" — are sure to continue because Brooklyn Rep. Charles Schumer, a key sponsor, and others vow to breathe new life into the bill next week. No doubt they'll have to make some changes to pick up votes. But the core of the crime bill — the proposed 100,000-cop increase nationwide, the assault weapons ban and funds for both punishment and prevention — must be preserved, even in the face of unprincipled partisanship and special-interest pressures.

Next stop, subways

According to an audit by city Controller Alan Hevesi, Bronx Metro-North stations suffer from a series of problems: cracks in platforms, graffiti, even a few dead animals. The report, including photos, is a sample of meticulous work — except that Hevesi's sleuths missed the garbage dumps while looking for litter.

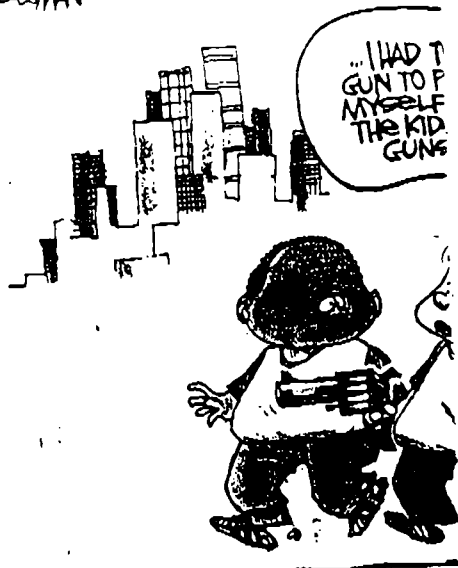
The areas around most, if not all, the 14 stations on the commuter line are piled with trash. Everything from auto tires to bottles to beer cans has been allowed to accumulate. And not just lately. Even a quick inventory of any station would yield evidence that it's been years since the last cleaning.

None of that gets mentioned by Hevesi, who nonetheless finds fault with the "fallen berries" on two platforms. Gee, what kind of berries? Black or red? Should the MTA chop down the trees? Meanwhile, the report notes a dead rat at the Harlem line's Tremont station without addressing whether rats are a problem. With so much garbage around, of course they are.

The report, along with one on the Long Island Rail Road, found that the MTA overcharged the city by more than \$1 million for police and maintenance last year. The MTA has agreed to give the money back. Suggestion for the MTA: Keep the million. Suggestion for Hevesi: Make sure they use it to clean the trash — which you should now go out and find.

Say what?

State Attorney General Oliver Koppell must be kidding. On Friday he was bounced out of federal court when he tried to force organizers of Woodstock '94 to make sign-language interpreters available for the hearing-impaired. Interpreters will be on stage for public service announcements, but Koppell wanted



VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Pity the players — NOT!

Glendale, N.Y.: So, the poor overworked and underpaid baseball players are going on strike. Gee, my heart bleeds for them. As far as I am concerned, it's three outs, bottom of the ninth and this game is definitely over. Take your contracts, take your salaries and take a hike. You have tarnished the great American pastime with great unparalleled greed. *Michael Wolf, J*

Get real, guys

Manhattan: Let me get this straight. A bunch of grown men who get paid millions of dollars to play a kids' game are on strike because their bosses want to cap their salaries at several million dollars? Beam me up Scotty. There's no intelligent life down here. *Vince Romano*

Saluting a legend

Bronx: Holy cow! My heartfelt congratulations to Phil Rizzuto. What kept them so long to induct him into the Hall of Fame? It's about time. *Ida Costanzo*

Blind justice

Manhattan: Voiceer Norman Gallman, Sr. asks the wrong question: "Can Nicole Brown Simpson get a fair trial?" She's not on trial — she's the victim. This mistake has been made numerous times in recent years as we have reduced our justice system to trial by media. The William Kennedy Smith and Menendez Brothers cases both put the victims on trial. In those trials it was the tabloids digging up dirt on the innocent victims. They were true to form when they disclosed how many abortions Ms. Simpson had. This disgusting cycle promises to get worse now that the Los Angeles DA and police department hold press conferences and leak evidence to convict the innocent-until-proven-guilty O.J. Once upon a time, prosecutors stayed out of the mud and tried cases before judges. Now they simply grab their 15 minutes of fame, stumble over the criminal process, and hope Sigourney Weaver plays them in the movie. *Alexander Cowherd*

Cops don't get it

Waterbury, Conn.: I was shocked to read the following headline in The News (Aug. 5): "Cops blame victims in park rape cases." The

wave of rapes in Central Park, 1994, rape continues to be classified as a "you-asked-for-crime." Inspector James Couney then states that "police has no plan to beef up patrols in park, except during special events." Is it apparent to anyone that advertising this fact will encourage the New York criminal element to carry on its rape wave against "careless" women? No wonder such crimes continue and increase. *Mary Ann K.*

Slick attempt

Glendale, N.Y.: In his article "Calling all cops: pass that crime bill" (Op ed Aug. 7) Jim Slee shows his ability to live up to name. Wake up, Sleeper. We ready have laws against crime. Enforce them. This was just another Slick Willie way of passing a new gun ban. *M.L. Gio*

Problem picture

Hempstead, L.I.: I found it typical, misleading and racist that your newspaper displayed photograph of black sex offender Robert Daniels along with photograph of the little girl who was raped and murdered by white sex offender Jesse T. Mendez. Why wasn't a photograph of the person arrested in this vicious crime displayed?

Don't do

Commack, L.I.: Re John been Ruined by lack of Queens College Student CUNY students on a reel seem to be some of the best rated individuals I have. Leo appears to argue that hard working spirit. On pay their own tuition by This by no means is an board member Herman comment "Many employ granted after 1670" I b

DAILY NEWS
August 14, 1994

WI-02

Capital Times

p. A1

8/12/94

Claims it will get new chance

Klug insists 'pork' killed crime bill

By John Patrick Hunter

Associate Editor, The Capital Times

Rep. Scott Klug, R-Madison, who helped derail the anti-crime bill and deliver a major setback to President Clinton, claimed today the measure had "too much pork" and was loaded with too many "social engineering projects" to merit his support.

But Klug insisted the \$33.2 billion crime bill "is not dead, it is just side-tracked."

Klug predicted the bill will be brought up again next week, with billions of dollars stripped from the measure and made acceptable to the National Rifle Association lobby.

The Madison Republican said he had warned the House leadership "weeks ago" that he would not support a procedural vote to bring the bill to the floor if the price tag was not lowered.

"What got added in was a lot of pork projects, you know, a justice building for (Rep.) Jack Brooks of Texas and a lot of other kinds of social engineering programs," Klug said today in a telephone interview from his Washington office.

The bill also includes \$500,000 for Madison and more than \$8 million for Milwaukee to help fund crime fighting, including the addition of more police officers.

"I think they just miscalculated and they ended up with a very strange alliance of people opposed to it, primarily Black Caucus members because of the death penalty, NRA folks who were mad



ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Clinton makes last-minute phone calls Thursday in hopes of gaining support for the crime bill.

about the guns and a bunch of deficit hawks who said we don't mind spending money on crime but this has gone off the deep end."

"What you will probably see is the crime bill back next week and they are probably going to fix the money problem and sit down with some Democrats who voted no because of the NRA issue," Klug said.

Continued on Back Page

■ Nation/World: Has Clinton run out of luck? 1B.

WI-02

Klug

■ Continued from Page 1A

Klug said he would vote for the bill if it is stripped of some of the objectionable features that bother him.

Klug's vote drew a sharp response from Tom Hecht, his Democratic opponent in this fall's election.

"Scott Klug talks tough on crime. Now, he has thrown it away," Hecht said.

"Scott Klug voted with the Republican Party leadership in Congress to kill the crime bill. If ever the Republicans gave up the crime issue, they did it today," Hecht said.

He added:

"While 11 Republicans had the courage to stand against their increasingly obstructionist party leadership, Scott Klug, un-

fortunately was not one of them.

"How can anyone who voted for the \$120 million space station call this crime bill, a bill that will put more police on our streets, build more prisons and provide tougher sentencing laws, a 'porked up' bill? Scott Klug needs a reality check. Klug can no longer be believed when he says he's tough on crime. The question is: can Scott Klug be believed at all."

Hecht said an overwhelming majority of the 2nd District residents wanted this bill. "Scott Klug has again failed to represent us in Congress."

Another Wisconsin congressman, Peter Barca of the First District, said the defeat "puts in question whether we will be able to pass a crime bill this session. At best it will significantly delay passage; at worst there will be no crime bill."

Barca said he did not agree with all the provisions of the

measure, "but the key provisions of this bill are desperately needed to help our neighborhoods."

Tom Barrett, Milwaukee, Fifth District, like the other four Wisconsin Democrats who vote to allow the bill to come to a final vote, said he was disappointed that many of his colleagues "bowed to the pressure exerted by the National Rifle Association."

"I think that's a pretty high price to pay to appease the NRA," Barrett said.

The 9-member Wisconsin delegation split along party lines with the five Republicans voting to refuse to bring the measure to a vote and the four Democrats voting in favor of the motion.

Voting No: Scott Klug, Steve Gunderson, Thomas Petri, Toby Roth and F. James Sensenbrenner.

Voting Yes: Peter Barca, Thomas Barrett, Gerald Kleczka, and Dave Obey.

WI-02

The Capital Times ■ Friday, August 12, 1994

Crime bill defeat doesn't bode well for Clinton

By David Larter and Ronald Brownstein
Los Angeles Times

News Analysis

When the history books are written, Thursday just may be recalled as the day President Clinton's luck — and with it his effectiveness — finally ran out.

For more than a year and a half, Clinton, despite being elected with only 43 percent of the vote, has managed to eke out of Congress a series of one- and two-vote victories — "Clinton landslides," his aides joked. Thursday, they stopped joking.

When the House rejected the \$33 billion crime bill and its leaders informed the White House they would probably have to wait until September even to begin floor debate on health care, the chief rationale for Clinton's presidency — that he could "break gridlock" in Washington — suffered two grievous blows.

Setbacks this large would damage any president. But for Clinton, who has held out "effectiveness" as the chief

counter to Americans' widespread questions about his character, the damage is far worse. For him, a series of legislative defeats would leave little to stand on.

Administration officials, confident that the crime bill enjoys overwhelming public support, spoke defiantly about bringing the bill back. "Voting no is the wrong side to be on on this issue," said one White House strategist. Officials also insisted that despite the scheduling setbacks, health care reform will prevail in the end. If either of those things happens, those major victories could erase much of this week's damage.

Moreover, anticipating large Democratic losses this fall, White House aides already had been laying plans for moving from a strategy based on legislative accomplishments to one based on more populist, more sharply toned, attacks on opponents.

Clinton previewed that strategy in an angry press conference after the crime bill vote — vowing to fight on and denouncing opponents for bowing to "special interests."

"I worked my heart out on it, and I did everything I could. And on this day the NRA (National Rifle Association) and the Republican leadership had their way," Clinton said. "I believe the American people will not like viewing this as some sort of political circus up here. I'm on their side, and I think we better see who's on what side."

Some aides hope that sort of approach, less tied to negotiating endless compromises through Congress, could revive Clinton's standing with voters. In any case, Clinton has little choice. "If your platform is getting stuff done and you can't get anything done, you better find a new platform," said Democratic pollster Mark Mellman.

Continued on Page 6B

WFOZ

Friday, Aug. 12, 1994

The Capital Times

6B

Clinton

Continued from Page 1B

But even if that shift in strategy should prove effective in the future, for now Clinton strategists made no attempt to hide their gloom. "This is very bad," said "It's beyond gridlock."

For months, Clinton and his aides had held up the advancing crime bill as the symbol of his ability to break gridlock with "New Democrat" ideas that bridged the divides between liberals and conservatives. Because of that, the failure of this particular legislation suggests that the institutional, ideological and par roots of gridlock are even more difficult to reach than the president believed.

White House officials were quick to blame the problem on Clinton's Republican opposition. But while the Republicans did run a fierce campaign against Clinton all year, they were not his main problem.

Democratic vote counters had predicted they could win if they got 10 Republican votes, 11 Republicans sided with them, and they still lost. The reason was Democratic defections, and the list of defectors illustrates Clinton's problem.

The president did suffer some losses on the left, including Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., and nine other members of the 38-member Congressional Black Caucus. They said they could not support the bill, despite its extensive new spending provisions for urban areas, because it contains several new death penalty provisions.

But Clinton lost most heavily among his fellow southerners and among conservatives, for whom alliance with Clinton has become a political millstone. The unwillingness of 56 members of his own party to link arms with Clinton on a major issue resembled nothing so much as the unraveling of the last Democrat to win the Oval Office, Jimmy Carter. And the fact that many congressional Democrats have dramatically and perhaps irrevocably severed their interests from Clinton's clearly cannot bode well for the health care debate.

Some of the individual defections show how Clinton's many problems have combined into a watch's brew of political trouble.

House Foreign Affairs chairman Lee Hamilton, D-Ind., for example, is the sort of party loyalist whose vote a Democratic president ought to be able to count on in a pinch. But "he's so angry at the president on these other issues, we can't get him," a White House official said before the vote, referring to Hamilton's displeasure at Clinton's uneven leadership on Bosnia, Haiti and other foreign matters.

Similarly, Rep. Jim Cooper, D-Tenn., is the sort of moderate, southern "New Democrat" Clinton had hoped to build a coalition around. But he has been alienated from the White House on health care. He voted no. So, too, did Rep. Dave McCurdy, D-Okla., who followed Clinton as leader of the Democratic Leadership Council, the organization of moderate and conservative

Democrats. The crime bill's defeat was remarkable not only because the House leadership almost never loses on procedural votes, but because the legislation was buoyed by two enormous tailwinds.

One was intense public concern about crime — in many states the top public concern. A recent Los Angeles Times poll

showed Americans supporting the bill 67 percent-26 percent, even after they were told about the large amounts of new spending that Republicans decried. The assault weapons ban had even wider support — 71 percent-24 percent.

The second reason that many expected the bill to pass was the huge pot of money the legislation

offered to interests all across the ideological and political spectrum: nearly \$8 billion in social programs favored by liberals, almost \$9 billion for mayors to hire police officers, \$1.6 billion to states to help pay for the cost of incarcerating illegal aliens, and \$6.5 billion for prison construction, the top crime-fighting priority of conservatives.

WI-02

NRA pressure derails crime bill

WJS
6/12

Clinton: 'I did everything I could'

By David Hess

Knight-Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Bowing to a fierce, last-ditch assault by the National Rifle Association, the House derailed a compromise version of the \$33 billion anti-crime bill Thursday by refusing on a procedural vote to bring it to the floor.

The vote was a jolting setback to President Clinton, who had personally lobbied many wavering members to support the measure — and a victory for Republicans who complained that it was larded with social programs disguised as crime-prevention measures.

"I worked my heart out on it and I did everything I could," an angry Clinton said afterward. "And on this day the NRA and the Republican leadership had their way."

Clinton accused the crime bill opponents of engaging in a "procedural trick" that puts "the protection of particular interests over the protection of ordinary Americans."

The vote was 225-210 to block the bill from coming to the floor — with 58 Democrats joining 167 Republicans in voting to sidetrack the

Wisconsin votes

In a 225-210 vote Thursday, the House refused to allow a \$33.2 billion crime bill package to come before the chamber for a vote.

Voting to allow debate were 198 Democrats (including Peter Barta, Thomas Barrett, Gerald Kaczkas and David Obey of Wisconsin), 11 Republicans and one independent.

Voting against allowing debate were 58 Democrats and 167 Republicans (including Scott Klug, Steve Gunderson, Thomas Petri, Toby Roth and F. James Sensenbrenner of Wisconsin).

measure.

What happens now is unclear.

House Democratic leaders could try again to bring up the measure. That would require changing the minds of at least eight House members who voted against the leadership Thursday.

Another possibility is for House and Senate negotiators to go back to work and try to come up with another, less controversial crime bill — perhaps by stripping the assault weapons ban from the legislation.

But Senate Judiciary Committee chairman Joseph Biden Jr., D-Del., said Thursday night he was not willing to reopen the conference committee.

House leaders, he said, should send the bill back to the floor as many times as necessary to overcome the opposition.

"We can't let a small group of zealots deny the American people what they want and what they need," Biden said.

And House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jack Brooks, D-Texas, said it would be "very difficult to go back to conference (with the Senate), it's almost impossible."

The House Democrats who bolted from the president were largely from rural districts where gun ownership is considered an unbreachable right and the NRA is deeply entrenched.

But the opponents also included 10 of the Congressional Black Cau-

Please see CRIME, Page 2A

■ House delays health reform/4A

WI-02

Crime

Continued from Page 1A

cus: 38 members still angry that conferees had removed a "racial justice" provision that would have enabled defendants in death penalty cases to appeal their sentences if they could show racial bias in their prosecutions or trials.

Rep. Peter Deutsch, D-Fla., said the bill was "a victim of both the left and right in the House. The right opposed it because of the gun ban, the left because it didn't contain the racial justice language."

Deutsch, who supported the gun ban, said the bill should go back to a House-Senate conference and the assault weapons provision removed so that it could pass the House.

Republicans were jubilant at defeating the president's initiative, but some insisted that the setback should not bury the bill.

"I hope they go back to conference on it," said Rep. Porter Goss, R-Fla., who led the fight to sidetrack the bill. "The Democrats need to step back now, reconsider, then give us a slimmer version. The biggest problem I saw with the bill is that there was too much preventive stuff and too little punishment."

But Democrats, smarting from the setback, said the partisanship was the coin of the Republicans.

"The Republicans made a decision today not to govern," said Rep. Mike Synar, D-Okla. "They took a powder. They took the position that it was more advantageous politically to oppose the president than to do the bidding of the American people, who have told us time and time again that they want action on this crime issue."

The most controversial item in the bill — the assault weapons ban — was the subject of intense lobbying by the NRA.

That provision would prohibit the manufacture and sale of 19 military-style semiautomatic rifles, pistols and shotguns by brand name, as well as similar weapons with the same rapid-fire, large-magazine features.

The NRA's lobbying was supplemented by the Republican National Committee, which turned its sights on 38 Republicans who voted the first time around for the gun ban, including Rep. Scott Klug, R-Wis.

(Klug had said he would oppose the conference committee's version because it called for more spending than originally approved by the House.)

In a letter to those members, signed by RNC general counsel David Norcross, the GOP lawmakers were subtly threatened with sanctions akin to excommunication from the party if they supported the rule bringing the bill up for final passage.

Norcross cited a resolution passed by the Alaska Republican Party, which the RNC's resolutions committee plans to consider at its January 1995 meeting.

The resolution condemned the 38 who had voted for the assault-weapon ban and proposed that the RNC "hereafter deny all Republican Party funding" to them.

Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., a prime sponsor of the bill, said the "pressure was unbelievable on those Republicans who were willing to vote against these awful weapons as a matter of principle. Their arms were being twisted out of the socket."



Rep. Scott Klug, a member of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, receives an honorary fire chief's helmet from Dane County Fire Chief Association Vice President Dave Bloom. Also honored: Ken Rowers (right), president of the Madison Area Builders Association.

"NANNY TAX" GETS REVAMPED FOR THE '90s

Finally, some tax relief from Congress. The House and Senate have each approved bills to revise the "nanny tax."

That's the little-known law that requires employers to withhold Social Security taxes for household workers, even teenage babysitters, if they earn more than \$50 in a quarter.

"From the very first day this thing blew up in the newspaper, Klug worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure this got done correctly." Rep. Jim Bunning

Rep. Scott Klug's "babysitter bill," which he drafted last year to change the antiquated tax threshold, has become the basis for the new law. "Everyone recognized that the \$50 tax threshold wasn't realistic," he said. "With today's cost-of-living, it's not unreasonable to pay a babysitter \$50 in just a month if parents go out to an occasional dinner and a movie."

The new House legislation raises the annual tax threshold to \$1,200 in 1991. The Senate version raises it to \$620 so a compromise between the two amounts will likely be struck in the conference committee. Both chambers did accept Klug's proposal to do away with quarterly report-

ing requirements to make filing easier as well as his proposal to index the threshold in future years to the national wage increase.

Getting the "nanny tax" revised hasn't been easy even though few opposed it. Although the House passed a similar "babysitter bill" last year, it stalled due to a procedural problem. For months it seemed it might never see the light of day.

Then this February, Klug turned the heat up again, writing a letter to Senate Finance Committee Chairman Daniel Patrick Moynihan as well as an op-ed piece for the Washington Times lamenting the fact that a year had gone by and the "nanny tax" still hadn't been updated.

Moynihan called him the day the article appeared, saying he agreed Congress had to get the legislation back on the fast-track. Within weeks of discussions with Moynihan, both the House and Senate had passed versions of the bill. In the House, Rep. Jim Bunning (R-KY), the ranking member of the Ways and Means subcommittee said, "From the very first day this thing blew up in the newspaper, Klug worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure this got done correctly."

At this writing, the tax revision is in the House/Senate conference committee.

I.R.S. TAX CODE DISCRIMINATES AGAINST HOMEMAKERS; Women hardest hit by unfair penalty

While Congress is moving ahead to revise the "nanny tax," Rep. Scott Klug is supporting legislation to change a tax code that discriminates primarily against women who work in the home.

The problem lies in the rules governing Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). If both spouses in a household bring home a paycheck, each is permitted to contribute and deduct up to \$2,000 to an IRA -- \$4,000 in total, subject to income limits. If only one spouse works, however, a married couple is limited to contributing a total of \$2,250 to an IRA.

Likewise, if a wage-earner in a one-income couple participates in an employee pension plan, there are further limits on

total IRA contributions.

"That means a one-income home may only put aside half as much in an IRA as a two-income family," he said. "When we're telling families to set aside thousands of dollars to ensure they won't find themselves impoverished in retirement, this tax law makes absolutely no sense."

In an effort to bring equal treatment to both spouses, he has cosponsored legislation to permit full \$2,000 IRA contributions by non-working spouses.

"Family members who work inside the home contribute just as much as their working spouses. There's no reason to penalize their retirement security. Instead, we should encourage them to save."

CRIME BILL NEARS FINAL PASSAGE IN CONGRESS

Crime continually tops national and statewide polls as the number one issue of concern for Americans. According to one poll, four out of every ten Americans have changed their way of living because of anxiety about crime.

Public outrage and frustration gave Congress added momentum to pass tougher criminal penalties this year. In April, both the House and Senate passed crime bills and a House/Senate conference is currently drafting the final bill.

"Congress has taken a broad and balanced approach to fighting crime," said Rep. Klug, who voted for the bill. "Tougher criminal penalties are certainly key, but education, prevention and drug treatment are also important components to ending the wave of violence."

Here's a short overview of the major elements of the crime bills.

MORE COPS ON THE STREETS

Of primary concern is putting more police officers on the streets. "Congress recognizes that communities beyond New York and Los Angeles need help in battling crime," he said.

The House bill authorizes \$1.4 billion to hire 50,000 new police officers nationwide and there's a similar provision in the Senate bill. Likewise, Congress authorized funds to help beef up rural law enforcement, which is also experiencing a growth in criminal activity.

"Realistically, no matter where you live in south central Wisconsin, crime rates will go up unless we give local law enforcement greater support right now."

TOUGHER CRIMINAL PENALTIES

Both chambers gave overwhelming approval to the "three strikes and you're out" proposal, which requires life imprisonment for a third violent felony.

"Statistics prove that a small number of violent felons commit the vast majority of crimes," he said. "We have to get these people off the streets...and keep them off the streets."

MORE PRISONS

House and Senate versions differ on the approach, but there's universal agreement on the need for more prisons. The House bill authorizes \$1.5 billion to help states build more prison cells.

CRIME PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

Congress also stepped up prevention, education and treatment efforts in creating the new law.

Both versions authorize funds for youth programs aimed at after-school activities, extracurricular, mentoring and supervised sports programs.

"If we give kids new activities and programs that take up their time and their minds," he said, "we can keep them off the streets and out of trouble."

Klug
Franked
Mail
Piece
Early July
1994

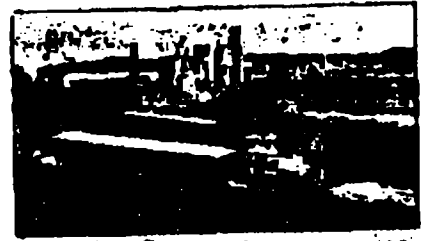


Now
it's
"Porte"

83-12

Today's Forecast High: 82 Low: 68 Mostly cloudy Details / A-12

Horror actor Peter Cushing dies / A-2



LA CROSSE Tribune

FRIDAY MORNING AUGUST 12, 1994 50 CENTS

Clinton loses on crime bill

President blames NRA, Republicans for dismissal of \$33 billion legislation

Gunderson's view:

Wisconsin Rep. Steve Gunderson voted against bringing the crime bill to the House floor Tuesday, calling it "very expensive and misplaced."

Gunderson, R-Osseo, says the bill was simply not what he claimed to be, saying local \$25.2 billion for "a social program in crime bill's clothing." Much of the funding in the program would have gone to urban areas, leaving eastern Wisconsin behind, he said.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House on Thursday shut down a sweeping anti-crime bill in a stunning setback to President Clinton. Shaken Democratic leaders said they would try to resurrect it next week.

"I worked my heart out and did everything I could," Clinton said in reaction to the vote. "On this day, the NRA (National Rifle Association) and the Republican leadership had their way."

Clinton immediately scheduled a trip to Minneapolis today for an appearance before a convention of the 200,000-member National Association of Police Organizations in an effort to revive the bill. And he called a morning Cabinet meeting, hoping to ignite some momentum for his health care legislation.

An unlikely coalition of Republicans, gun-control opponents and black lawmakers prevailed 228-

210 in a parliamentary move that prevented the House from actually voting on the crime bill itself.

House Speaker Thomas Foley, emerging from a four-hour meeting with White House officials after the vote, said late Thursday night, "We hope next week we'll be voting on the crime bill."

The legislation would have provided \$24.3 billion for an additional 100,000 police officers, prisons, crime-prevention measures and

an especially controversial tax on assault-style firearms.

The president's opponents included 187 Republicans and 38 Democratic dissenters. Voting for the bill were 198 Democrats, 11 Republicans and 1 Independent. While lambasting the gun lobby and Republicans, Clinton seemed to defend black lawmakers whose opposition was based on capital punishment concerns.

The National Rifle Association

called Thursday's action a "step ahead for real safety and genuine security."

"We Americans want precisely the opposite of what politicians offered them ...," said Tanya K. Metzman, the NRA's chief lobbyist. "We want prisons, not parks; police, not empty promises; crime fighters, not social workers."

By Associated Press / A-12

stirs up rhetoric

From B-1

social workers for every cop on the beat," he said.

In addition, short-term funding for 100,000 more police officers and prison construction "will leave local government holding the bag when the money runs out," he said.

Roth wants the bill sent back to conference to excise \$9 billion in "social welfare spending" like midnight basketball leagues, arts and crafts classes and self-esteem programs. He also wants taken out the \$10 million included to build a criminal justice college in the House Judiciary Committee chairman's Texas district.

Meanwhile, Roth's primary election opponent, De Pere Mayor Nancy Nusbaum, had called on him to support the crime bill, saying he has spent 16 years "talking tough but accomplishing little when it comes to helping local mayors and police departments deal with problems of rising crime, drugs and gang violence."

Stan Gruszynski, Democratic candidate for Roth's U.S. congressional seat, said Wisconsin communities will suffer because of the vote.

"Our communities are struggling with rising crime rates, and a short-sighted Congress said no, we won't help you," Gruszynski said.

Groat says it was more partisanship than special interests that killed the bill. Still, 58 Democrats joined Republicans in voting to reject it.

The National Rifle Association, which gets much of the blame, or credit, for dooming the bill, issued a statement applauding the defeat.

While the crime bill included a ban on 19 assault-type weapons, the NRA statement didn't even mention it, focusing only on the "pork" and "social experiments" aspects.

TO YOUR HEALTH: Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis., who says he can't vote for the Mitchell health care bill as is because it falls short on long-term care and universal coverage, has been tagged "team leader" for the floor debate on long-term care for the elderly and disabled provisions.

Wisconsin Sen. Herb Kohl, who has gained national TV exposure as one of 10 undecided Democratic senators, says he objects to the health insurance premium tax and new entitlement programs being

kept plant and move 2,000 jobs out of state spurred Feingold to introduce a bill to prevent Community Development Block Grants and other U.S. Housing and Urban Development funds from being used to help businesses move jobs from one state to another.

The CDRG program was designed to help communities with economic development.

"There is no way to justify to the taxpayers in my state that their hard-earned tax dollars are being used to move their own jobs out of state," Feingold said.

CAMPAIGN CROSSFIRE: Gruszynski campaign workers point to a big red and white sign just off U.S. 41 five miles south of De Pere that says "Toby votes against seniors 82% of the time." Seems Koth stopped at the house about a month ago and asked the owner to take it down.

He didn't. But last weekend, someone painted over "Toby votes."

Meanwhile, Nusbaum campaign workers are wondering if Roth was setting a theme for his campaign ads during two broadcast interviews last week, one on local TV and one on Wisconsin Public Radio, in which Roth equates the De Pere mayor's wealth with Kohl's millions.

The evidence? Nusbaum recently loaned \$30,000 to her campaign.

Nusbaum says she took out a second mortgage on her home to get the money. It's a common practice for candidates to loan money to their own campaigns until their fund-raising can cover it.

A "fax alert" from the state Republican Party says Clinton's pollster Stanley Greenberg is advising congressional candidates to distance themselves from the president.

According to state Republican chairman David Opitz, Greenberg is telling them to run on their own accomplishments and agendas.

"There is no reason to highlight these as Clinton or Democratic proposals," he said the advice goes.

THE VOTE IS IN: Lawmakers, especially those up for re-election, are keeping their fingers on the voting button.

According to Roll Call Report Syndicate, legislators' voting percentages are way up for the first half of this year. "so the folks back home can see they're hard at work on Capitol Hill."

Sparks fly over crime bill

By Judy Williams
Post-Crescent staff writer

Kathy Groat, 8th Congressional District Democratic Party chairman, is upset by the failure of the crime bill this week.

It's especially troubling, she says, "When you consider that we elected President Clinton to solve some of our problems, and when he comes up with a bill, they won't let him be-

POLITICAL NOTES

cause of partisanship or special interests."

Groat concedes the \$33.2 billion bill, rejected 225-210 by the House of Representatives, wasn't perfect.

"I was not happy with some parts of it, for instance the death penalty for additional crimes," Groat said. "But the important thing is to have a bill and start working with it."

That's a sentiment shared by Rep. David Obey, D-Wausau, who said he "can't stand" much about the bill, but "the most important thing was that we pass the crime bill."

Rep. Toby Roth, one of 167 Republicans voting to reject it, disagrees.

Roth, who had voted for the House bill in April, said the conference committee bloated the final version with social programs and pork barrel projects. It "funds two

Please see CRIME, B-3