



Part of the assembly at St. Thomas the Apostle.

Abortion Agreement Reached

Washington, D. C. (RNS) — U. S. Senate and House conferees have agreed on a compromise bill permitting Medicaid abortions in some instances, ending a five-month deadlock on the issue.

The compromise agreement is more liberal than the House amendment, which opposed all Medicaid abortions except those necessary to save the life of the mother. However, it is stricter than the Senate proposal which would have virtually allowed Medicaid payments for all elective abortions.

As finally approved, the measure permits Medicaid abortions in three cases: When the mother's life is threatened by the pregnancy, in cases involving rape or incest, and when continuing the pregnancy would result in severe physical health damage to the mother as determined by two physicians.

The rape clause includes statutory rape, or

intercourse involving minors. About one-third of Medicaid abortions performed, before funding was cut off, involved minors.

Approval of the Medicaid abortion compromise enables Congress to proceed with action on the \$60 billion appropriations bill for the Department of Labor and Health, Education and Welfare (HEW). Some 24,000 employees faced payless paydays unless the impasse was broken by Dec. 9.

Opponents of Medicaid abortion, including Rep. Henry J. Hyde (R-ILL.) who wrote the original House bill, denounced the Medicaid compromise as a measure which "provides for the extermination of thousands of unborn lives." But, he added, "I don't like to be the consummate Christmas Scrooge standing between thousands of (federal) employees and their Christmas paychecks."

After a number of votes,

the House agreed, 181-167, to accept the compromise. Within two hours, with only six Senators on the floor, the Senate agreed to the House action and sent the measure to President Carter for his signature. The agreement came after 72 hours of intensive negotiations between House and Senate leaders.

Despite the change in the House's position, pro-abortion groups were dissatisfied with the compromise.

The American Civil Liberties Union said that the action was no compromise but "a brutal treatment of women with medical needs for abortions... This law denies women the right to control their destiny."

Sen. Edward W. Brooke (R-Mass.), a liberal abortion advocate, said about 100,000 women a year may qualify for abortions under the new guidelines.

Some 300,000 women received Medicaid abortions annually before federal funding was halted.

Neediest Cases

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from her Social Security to pay the movers

75 K is a widow, advancing alone in years, whose sole income is her meager Social Security. Her financial condition is such that she will not be able to celebrate Christmas

76 G's father deserted the family when she was an infant. Her mother was unable to function as a parent for any of the children in the family, and consequently G has spent nearly all of her life in foster care homes. Despite these deprivations, she is struggling to become a self-supporting, responsible adult and to make positive contributions to her community. Her small

Funds

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ruling covered a suit involving Cathedral Academy of Albany, a Roman Catholic school. Claims for funds by some 2,000 other parochial schools had been held up until the Court made its decision.

Currently, the parochial schools in New York State receive between \$7 and \$8 million a year in various forms of state assistance, including textbooks given directly to students, bus transportation and certain health services.

income is carefully budgeted; but between her school expenses and her meager living circumstances, she is without the funds for anything extra.

77 H is a widow with six children to raise. She has a parttime job, but this income is insufficient to provide anything but the necessities for herself and her children.

78 M is a severely troubled 76-year-old. She is also very poor and quite helpless. Since she can't face her problems and her loneliness, sometimes she drinks too much.

79 B is legally blind and in her 70s. Although she is a very friendly woman, she is very poor and isolated. She is unable to leave her apartment without help.

80 Nearing 80, S is a very frail little lady totally without relatives. Recently

she was forced to move when the building she was living in was slated for demolition. Although she has the absolute necessities in furniture, she is without any other goods to comfort her in her old age.

Marijuana Bill Vetoed by D.C. Mayor

Washington, D.C. (RNS)— Mayor Walter E. Washington has vetoed a bill that would have decriminalized penalties for possession of small amounts of marijuana.

The mayor has maintained a close relationship with black ministers in the city who have strongly opposed any laws liberalizing marijuana.

SOME THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER

By Ed Sulewski

Someone you love has died. You are about to make funeral arrangements. You must consider many things. After the funeral, you cannot then do what you feel you should have done, but didn't. After the funeral, you can't undo or change what was done. If you are like most people, you are sad and you will go through a trying time, because for most persons there is no more difficult period than that encountered immediately after death and separation. We have served many families during their time of crisis and loss. We want to help you as we have helped them. In the following issues we will discuss some ideas that we hope will be helpful to you when arranging a funeral.

No. 6

SCHAUMAN FUNERAL HOME, INC. 2100 St. Paul Street 342-3400

Parish Gives \$1,000 To New SBS Center

The Parish Board of St. Paul's in Webster has voted to give \$1,000 to the Continuing Education Center at St. Bernard's Seminary.

The move, announced last week by board president Robert Franz, was made to provide a "stimulus" to other parish groups contemplating a similar move and "as an investment in the future."

The money will go into a scholarship fund, Franz said, to aid persons who cannot afford the cost of the center's programs, especially those in ministry in the innercity and in campus ministry.

The board determined the amount after considering that "anything less wouldn't offer the funding the program needed," Franz said.

Joseph Kelly, the director of the center, noted, "We see here a parish who is willing to share its resources



Franz makes presentation to Kelly.

and is not turned in on itself."

"This kind of gift," he said, "is a great support to the program and to the

seminary. It allows the program to have a small cushion to insure that no participants will be turned away because of financial difficulties."

Duff Rund's Perwinkle Pub Holiday Schedule

— CHRISTMAS EVE —
SERVING DINNER TIL 8 P.M.
Reservations Appreciated

— NEW YEAR'S EVE —
in the FAMILY ROOM
ALL YOU CAN EAT
Prime Rib Buffet **\$8.95**
Peel your own Shrimp all You can eat, Salad Bar Dessert Bar, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Reservations Appreciated

in the PUB
SPECIAL HOLIDAY MENU
4:30 p.m. til 12:00 Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY & NEW YEAR'S DAY—

FAMILY ROOM Our Traditional BRUNCH 11 a.m. til 3 p.m.	PUB HOLIDAY DINNER 1 p.m. til 7 p.m.
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RESERVATIONS APPRECIATED

Duff RUND'S PERIWINKLE Pub

Perinton Plaza
223-4220
Drive East on Monroe Ave.
Rt. 31 to Mosley Rd.
Rt. 250