

SEP 22 1970

THE NEW YORK TIMES, TUE

Tough Nixon-Backed Crime Bill Cleared by House Subcommittee

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21 (AP)—A stringent anticrime bill backed by President Nixon to curb organized crime and bombings was approved today by a House Judiciary subcommittee.

Representative Emanuel Celler of Brooklyn, the subcommittee chairman, said that the death penalty for fatal bombings had been written into the bill at a three-and-a-half-hour meeting, but he declined to give further details.

Other sources said that the subcommittee was split on the death penalty, and Representative Robert W. Kastenmeier, Democrat of Wisconsin, said it could still be stricken when the full Judiciary Committee considers the massive bill Tuesday.

The long-delayed bill—basically the Organized Crime Control Act passed by the Senate last January plus an anti-bombing section—was passed by the subcommittee under a threat by the House Republican leadership to try to force it out of committee.

With law and order an issue in many Congressional election campaigns, the leadership would have had little trouble getting the 218 signatures needed for a petition to force the bill out. House consideration is expected in the next few weeks.

Mr. Celler, who has contended that some of the bill's provisions might infringe on individual rights, said that the bill was satisfactory but that it had been passed under deadline pressure.

Besides the death penalty for fatal bombings the bill is understood to provide a maximum of 20 years in jail and a \$20,000 fine for bombings that

result in injury, and 10 years and a \$10,000 fine for bombings that destroy property.

Meanwhile, the Senate passed by 66 to 0 a bill to create a National Health Service Corps to work to improve health care in rural areas and poverty urban sections.

The measure, which authorizes \$42-million for the corps over the next four years, went to the House.

In the House, a bill to increase nonservice-connected veterans' pensions was approved, 314 to 0, and sent to the Senate. The increases would cost about \$160-million next year and rise to an annual cost of \$177.5-million after four years.

The increases would average \$7.47 a month for an estimated 1.6 million pensioners.

The House also sent to the Senate bills to extend the veterans' guaranteed housing loan program and to provide mortgage insurance for certain veterans.

The housing measure would authorize the Veterans Administration to guarantee loans for the purchase of mobile homes.

The insurance bill would authorize the V.A. to obtain commercial mortgage protection life insurance of up to \$30,000 for seriously disabled veterans eligible for special housing assistance.

The House passed and sent to the White House a bill to authorize \$4.5-million for research on ways to control the Crown of Thorns starfish.

Massive infestations of the starfish have destroyed more than 100 square miles of the Great Barrier Reef off Australia and more than 23 miles of coral reefs off Guam.