

SENATE BARS CURB ON VIETNAM DUTY

Proposal to Make Draftees' Combat Role Voluntary
Loses in 52-to-21 Vote
MAY 26 1971

By DAVID E. ROSENBAUM
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 25—The Senate rejected today, 52 to 21, a proposal that would have prohibited the assignment of draftees to combat in Vietnam after the end of the year without their assent.

Throughout the debate, which meshed the controversial issues of the draft and the war, there were seldom more than half a dozen Senators on the floor.

Senator Gaylord Nelson, Democrat of Wisconsin, who sponsored the amendment to the draft law, quoted Pentagon statistics in arguing that draftees have "borne the heaviest burden of the war."

Fifty-seven per cent of the Army enlisted men killed in combat last year were conscripted, Mr. Nelson said, even

Continued on Page 20, Column 1

Continued From Page 1, Col. 2

though only 31 per cent of all enlisted men in the Army were draftees.

Pacing the floor and shouting without a microphone to an almost empty chamber, Mr. Nelson said:

"No young man should be required to stake his life to save face for the political leaders who unwisely blundered into this war. I would not ask my own son or anyone else to do that."

Senator John C. Stennis, the chairman of the Armed Services Committee contended that the proposal would have created two classes of soldiers, one that could fight and the other that could not.

"An Army unit would be rendered inoperative" the Mississippi Democrat declared, "if each man's record had to be reviewed by the commanders before they acted in an emergency."

Senator Stennis also argued that the amendment would be a "kick in the teeth" to the concept of an all-volunteer armed force.

If the Nelson amendment were to pass said Mr. Stennis, few men would enlist because "it tells young men by all means stay away from volun-

teering but go the induction route and stay out of combat."

Despite the lopsided vote, the idea of exempting draftees from combat service has gained currency in the last four years. A plan similar to Senator Nelson's was rejected in 1967 by a vote of 75 to 2 with only the Senate's original doves, former Senators Wayne Morse of Oregon and Ernest Guren of Alaska, voting for it.

The vote on the Nelson proposal was the second in what is expected to be a long list of Senate votes on the draft law. Earlier, the Senate rejected, 61 to 7, a proposal by Senator John V. Tunney, Demo-

crat of California, that would have exempted draftees from assignment to any combat area outside the United States.

The Nelson amendment would have permitted draftees to be sent to Vietnam or other combat areas if they did not have a specialty that could take them into combat.

The high rate of absenteeism, presumably the result of Senators taking an extra long Memorial Day break, clouded the outlook on a crucial amendment to be voted on tomorrow.

This proposal, which the House approved last month in passing its version of the bill, would increase the pay and

allowances for servicemen by twice what President Nixon has recommended. Its supporters see it as a way to induce more volunteers and thus accelerate efforts to eliminate the draft.

Senators on both sides who were trying to count noses before tomorrow's vote said today that they were having trouble determining who was going to be present.

Among those absent today was Senator Jacob K. Javits, Republican of New York, who is on a tour of the Far East for the Foreign Relations Committee. New York's other Senator, James L. Buckley, a Conservative-Republican, voted against the Nelson amendment.

Following the vote on Senator Nelson's proposal, the Senate rejected an amendment by Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, that would have deleted from the bill an Administration proposal to pay bonuses of up to \$6,000 to soldiers who volunteered for combat.

Senator Kennedy called the extra money "a blood bonus" that would lead poor men into hazardous duty. Senator Stennis said that combat duty was worth more pay and that the bonuses were the only way to induce men into rifle and infantry units.

The House rejected the combat bonus plan last month, so the issue will have to be settled in conference. The House also defeated several attempts to restrict the assignment of draftees to Vietnam.

Vote on Draftees' War Duty

WASHINGTON, May 25 (AP)—Following is the roll-call vote by which the Senate rejected, 52 to 21, today an amendment by Senator Gaylord Nelson, Democrat of Wisconsin, to a bill ending the draft law, to bar sending draftees to Vietnam unless they volunteer:

For the Amendment—21	
Democrats—16	
Burdick (N. D.)	Muskie (Me.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Nelson (Wis.)
Fulbright (Ark.)	Pastore (R. I.)
Gravel (Alaska)	Pell (R. I.)
Hughes (Iowa)	Proxmire (Wis.)
Humphrey (Minn.)	Ribicoff (Conn.)
Mansfield (Mont.)	Tunney (Calif.)
Mondale (Minn.)	Williams (N. J.)
Republicans—5	
Brooke (Mass.)	Schweiker (Pa.)
Hatfield (Ore.)	Stevens (Alaska)
Percy (Ill.)	

Against the Amendment—52	
Democrats—21	
Benisen (Tex.)	Jordan (N. C.)
Byrd (Va.)	Kennedy (Mass.)
Cannon (Nev.)	Magnuson (Wash.)
Chiles (Fla.)	McClellan (Ark.)
Eastland (Miss.)	Montoya (N. M.)
Ellender (La.)	Randolph (W. Va.)
Ervin (N. C.)	Stennis (Miss.)
Gambrell (Ga.)	Stevenson (Ill.)
Harris (Okla.)	Talmadge (Ga.)
Hollings (S. C.)	
Republicans—31	
Alken (Vt.)	Griffin (Mich.)
Allott (Colo.)	Gurney (Fla.)
Baker (Tenn.)	Hruska (Neb.)
Beall (Md.)	Jordan (Idaho)
Boggs (Del.)	Packwood (Ore.)
Brock (Tenn.)	Pearson (Kan.)
Buckley (N. Y.)	Prouty (Vt.)
Case (N. J.)	Roth (Del.)
Cook (Ky.)	Saxbe (Ohio)
Cooper (Ky.)	Scott (Pa.)
Coit (N. H.)	Smith (Me.)
Curtis (Neb.)	Taft (Ohio)
Dole (Kan.)	Thurmond (S. C.)
Dominko (Colo.)	Weicker (Conn.)
Fannin (Ariz.)	Young (N. D.)
Goldwater (Ariz.)	

Pairs (pairs are used to denote opposing positions when one or both Senators are absent): Mathias (R-Md.), for, Tower (R-Tex.), against; Bayh, (D-Ind.), for, Eagleton (D-Mo.), against.

GIVE TO FRESH AIR FUND.