

## Curbs on Firearms Voted by Congress

By JOHN W. FINNEY  
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10 —

Congress, pushing for adjournment by the weekend, completed action today on gun control legislation restricting the interstate sale of rifles, shotguns and ammunition.

The compromise bill, the first major firearms control act to be passed by Congress in 30 years, was approved by the surprisingly close vote of 160-to-149 in the House. Already approved by the Senate, it now goes to the White House for President Johnson's signature after a year's struggle.

The years-long struggle flared briefly in the final moments of action as Representatives from rural districts once again voted against the legislation. Until

Continued on Page 23, Column 4

Continued From Page 1, Col. 6

the last few minutes of the roll-call, passage was uncertain.

The compromise between bills passed earlier by the House and Senate falls far short of the controls proposed by the Administration following the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. In addition to restrictions on the interstate sale of firearms and ammunition, the Administration had proposed the licensing of gun owners and the registration of firearms.

### Opposition Overwhelming

The licensing and registration proposals ran into overwhelming opposition from Representatives of Western and Southern states, as well as from the gun lobby.

The bill would ban the interstate mail order sales of rifles, shotguns and ammunition. A similar ban on the sale of handguns was contained in the crime control bill passed last summer.

The legislation would also restrict over-the-counter sales of firearms to out-of-state residents and ban the sale of rifles and shotguns to persons under 18 years of age and handguns to persons under 21.

It was one of the last major pieces of legislation awaiting Congressional action before adjournment. With many members eager to return home to participate in Columbus Day ceremonies on Saturday, the leadership began whipping bills through the previously lackadaisical post-convention session in an attempt to adjourn by tomorrow night.

One possible impediment was removed when President Johnson announced that he would not nominate another Chief Justice of the United States. Such a nomination would have forced the Senate to remain in session or to return after the election next month. Senator Mike Mansfield of

Montana, the majority leader, was expected to announce tomorrow that the treaty to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons would be laid aside until the new Congress convenes in January.

All that remained in the way of adjournment were various appropriations bills already passed by the House and Senate and now in Senate-House conferences to reconcile differences, such as the defense and foreign aid appropriations bill. Senate-House conferees reached agreement today on a compromise \$72-billion defense appropriations bill, the largest single appropriations bill in the nation's history.

Foreign aid conferees, who broke off negotiations early this week, reached agreement on a \$1.75-billion bill, the smallest in the 21-year history of the foreign aid program nearly \$1.2-billion less than the Administration had requested.

The Senate passed the supplemental appropriation bill—a \$674.8-million bill providing funds for Federal agencies that exceeded their budgetations. The bill, the closing business along with the foreign aid bill, now goes to a conference.

Reversing House administration requests, the bill increases feeding and housing.

### Food St

The Senate full \$90-million Administration bill for the food stamp program, which feeds the needy far. This was approved by the House. The bill was passed by the House in a session or to return after the election next month. Senator Mike Mansfield of