

FORD, K.D.

Ford Vetoes \$45 Billion for Social Help

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 19— President Ford vetoed today a \$45 billion appropriation for the Departments of Labor and of Health, Education and Welfare, but still faced difficult political decisions on legislation on energy and construction site picketing.

Today's veto, which Congressional leaders will not try to override until next month, was the 42d by Mr. Ford since becoming President on Aug. 9, 1974. All but seven have been sustained.

In his veto message to the House of Representatives, the President called the Labor and H.E.W. appropriation "a classic example of unchecked spending."

He said that the bill provided nearly \$1 billion more in spending authority than he had requested, would add \$382 million to this year's Federal deficit and would increase permanent Federal employment rolls by 8,000 workers.

"This bill is, therefore inconsistent with fiscal discipline and with effective restraint on the growth of Government," the President's message declared.

White House Confident

Much of the appropriation vetoed today would have provided funds for social programs, plans to provide jobs for the unemployed and manpower training, for health and nutrition operations and a variety of other programs designed to assist individuals.

Senator Warren G. Magnuson, Democrat of Washington, who is chairman of the Senate committee that prepared the Labor and H.E.W. appropriations for the current fiscal year, said that the veto "shows that the President prefers the politics of the veto over programs to assist the poor and the sick."

The Senator urged Congress to override the veto and said that today's action was "another example of President Ford's failure to cooperate with

Congress and to provide real leadership for the American people."

At the White House today, William I. Greener, the deputy press secretary, said that the President was sure that his veto would be sustained.

The appropriation vetoed today, for the fiscal year ending June 30, actually was for \$36 billion. However, the President also vetoed the appropriation for the transition period, July 1 to Sept. 30, adopted for the changeover to a new Federal fiscal year that will begin on Oct. 1.

Meanwhile, the President is expected to decide shortly what to do about two other important pieces of legislation. One is a bill that, among other things, would roll back domestic oil prices before gradually decontrolling them. The other would allow a construction union to shut down an entire construction site when on strike against a single contractor at that site. This bill also contains provisions intended to stabilize collective bargaining in the construction industry.

Several of the President's aides said today that the President found himself in a very difficult political situation with regard to the two bills.

"The President is in a no-win

situation on both bills," said one aide, adding, "He loses if he signs and he loses if he vetoes."

The President's energy adviser, Frank G. Zarb, has recommended that Mr. Ford sign the energy bill, which was a compromise worked out by Mr. Zarb with Congress.

The construction legislation, known as the "common situs picketing" bill was prepared with the strong support of the Secretary of Labor, John T. Dunlop, who said that failure to pass it would cause "unmitigated hell" in construction union negotiation.

However the President's political advisers reportedly have strongly urged him to veto both bills to please conservative Republicans, and, hopefully, counter the appeal of Ronald Reagan, the former Governor of California who is opposing Mr. Ford for the 19th G.O.P. Presidential nomination.

There has been heavy lobbying against both proposals. The White House said it has received 72 letters and telegrams for the energy bill and 7,084 against it. The count on the picketing bill is 6,400 for and 652,000 against.

However, if Mr. Ford vetoes the bills he will appear to be undercutting his own deputies.