

# HOUSE APPROVES A BILL TO COMBAT ORGANIZED CRIME

Vote Is 341-26 as Members  
Yield to Nixon Prodding—  
Drug Debate in Senate

OCT 9 7 1970

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7 — A bill to combat organized crime and permit Federal agents to investigate campus bombings was approved tonight by the House, 341 to 26. The action came after months of prodding by the Nixon Administration for passage of the anticrime provisions.

A small band of Democratic liberals protested to the end that many of the bill's provisions were unconstitutional.

But their objections were brushed aside as the Democratic-controlled House sought to erase charges by the Nixon Administration that the Democrats are "soft on crime."

Somewhat similar legislation cleared the Senate last January, but the House added a number of new provisions, including the death penalty for those convicted of fatal bombings and permission for agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate major campus disorders.

## Drug Debate Opens

Differences between the Senate and House versions are to be resolved in conference by representatives of the two houses, possibly before Congress recesses next Wednesday for the November elections.

The Senate, meanwhile, opened debate on a House-passed bill that is designed to crack down on illicit narcotics traffic but reduces penalties for lesser drug violations. The Senate passed last January a much narrower drug control bill that the Administration has termed inadequate.

Over the objections of the floor managers, the Senate voted today, 44 to 23, to add to the House-passed bill a broad

new program of drug education, research and rehabilitation.

Proposed by Senator Harold E. Hughes, Democrat of Iowa, the amendment would establish a national institute for the prevention and treatment of drug abuse and drug dependence within the National Institutes of Health and would authorize \$190-million in Federal grants over a three-year period to states, localities and projects for rehabilitation and treatment of drug users.

It was uncertain tonight whether the House would accept the Hughes proposal without a major fight, thus casting some doubt on whether the drug control bill would clear Congress before the recess.

The House debate today on the Administration's anticrime legislation centered primarily on a provision under which

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judges would be allowed to impose additional sentences of up to 25 years on certain "dangerous adult special offenders" convicted of crimes that carry lesser penalties.

While aimed primarily at racketeers and other figures in organized crime, the provision was interpreted by some Democratic liberals as broad enough to apply to lesser criminals, perhaps even college students convicted more than once of peddling marijuana cigarettes.

Under the disputed provision, judges would be allowed to consider any information, written or oral, concerning the "background, character and conduct" of a defendant before imposing the extended term.

A similar provision was written into the drug control bill last week by the House.

Democratic liberals also attacked another provision under which special grand juries could indict or issue reports concerning noncriminal misconduct by appointed government officials.

As passed by the Senate, the bill, would have included elected public officials as well as appointed ones. The House Judiciary Committee limited the scope to appointed officials, and the House, by voice vote, upheld the committee decision, thus providing immunity for members of Congress as well as all other elected officials.

Despite repeated attempts to soften or kill these and other controversial provisions, the crime bill passed the House exactly as the Judiciary Committee had written it. Not a comma was changed.

Among the other major pro-

visions, the bill would do the following:

¶Make it a crime to use income from organized crime to acquire or establish a business engaged in interstate commerce. This would carry a penalty of up to 20 years in prison, a \$25,000 fine, or both.

¶Make it a Federal crime to participate in a conspiracy to obstruct the enforcement of state or local gambling laws with the intent to facilitate an illegal gambling business.

¶Establish Federal control over interstate and foreign commerce in explosives.

¶Establish a national commission on individual rights to review this and other laws to determine if they infringe upon individual rights.

In addition to questioning the constitutionality of many of the bill's provisions, opponents argued that it held out false hope for an end to "crime in the streets."

"The streets of Chicago and Washington and New York won't be any safer once this bill becomes law," Representative Abner J. Mikva, Democrat of Illinois, protested.