



NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE OBSERVANCE OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR

Office of Public Information
P. O. Box 1567
Washington, D.C. 20013
(202) 632-8978 or 8979

Update 10 March 20, 1978 Your Concluding Issue

WHITE HOUSE PRESENTATION SET

An advance copy of IWY's official report, The Spirit of Houston, will be presented to President Carter in White House ceremonies Wednesday, March 22, from 2:00-3:30 pm. This event marks the major first step toward a national response to the IWY Plan of Action.

Earlier in the day, the newly appointed IWY Continuing Committee (provided for in the National Plan of Action approved in Houston) will meet for the first time to begin work on mobilizing support for the Plan. The names of those 469 women and men selected to serve will be announced once acceptances have been received from all appointees. These continuing committee members will meet and travel to Washington at their own expense. The Committee includes Commissioners, heads of major women's organizations, chairs of special interests caucuses formed at Houston, and State chairs of delegations. Also included are additional members appointed by the IWY Commission.

On March 23, National Women's Conference artifacts -- the gavels, the torch, the scroll--will be turned over to the Smithsonian Institution in ceremonies at the Museum of History and Technology. (see col. 2)

CHECK NEWSPAPERS, TV BROADCAST SPOTS

Watch your local newspapers for stories about the official IWY presentation to President Carter on March 22. (Or better yet, alert your local news editors to watch for wire service coverage and to use it!)

Many state coordinating committees and delegate groups are planning simultaneous local media events, visits to mayors and presentations of IWY materials to University libraries.

(continued from col. 1)

Public Law 94-167 requires termination of the present National Commission by March 31, 1978, and the present office will close. We expect to have a forwarding address for the IWY Continuing Committee. In the meantime, write "Please Forward" on any correspondence mailed to the IWY address (P.O. Box 1567, Washington, D.C. 20013).

Copies of The Spirit of Houston, the IWY official report, will be mailed to all delegates, alternates, at-large delegates and continuing committee members. Copies will go on sale from the Government Printing Office in late April. No price has yet been set.

**** INSIDE: LEGISLATIVE ALERT ****

LEGISLATIVE ALERT ** LEGISLATIVE ALERT ** LEGISLATIVE ALERT **

The National Plan of Action Lives!! Long Live the Plan of Action!

House and Senate staff, the Congressional Clearinghouse staff, and the staff of the Library of Congress Congressional Research Service have helped IWY draw up this overview of the most significant pending legislation on issues in the National Plan of Action.

Some bills clearly have an excellent chance of passing, but there are many crisis areas ahead -- particularly in child care, health care, welfare reform, and pregnancy disability. Update readers are urged to make their views known by writing their Representatives, Senators, and the committee chairs listed. You may phone any member of Congress at 202-224-3121.

BATTERED WOMEN--Legislation concerning battered women has been introduced in the House and Senate; March hearings were held by the Senate Child and Human Development Subcommittee and the House Select Education Committee. Senator Cranston may introduce a bill combining elements of the following House and Senate versions:

HR 7927 (Steers/Boggs) and S1728 (Anderson/Kennedy) would establish a grant program under the National Institute of Mental Health to identify, treat, and prevent family violence.

HR 8948 (Mikulski) would establish a National Center for Community Action Against Family Violence within ACTION. Volunteers would be used in community programs to reduce family violence.

All bills provide for coordination of prevention and treatment activities, and an information clearinghouse on family violence.

Sen. Alan Cranston, Chair
Child and Human Development
Subcommittee

452 Russell Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Rep. John Brademas, Chair
Select Education Committee
2178 Rayburn Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

BUSINESS--At this writing, S1526 has passed the Senate. It would provide for an associate administrator for Women Business Enterprise within the Small Business Administration (SBA). House hearing was in early March. Numerous requests for a new SBA position representing minority businesswomen have not yet been acted on.

Rep. Neal Smith, Chair
House SBA and SBIC Authority and
General Problems Subcommittee

2361 Rayburn Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

CHILD ABUSE--Legislation to reauthorize the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act of 1974 has already passed both House and Senate and awaits conference action. Both versions of the bill provide extra funds for the treatment of sexual abuse. A final vote is expected this spring. Contact individual Congressional offices.

CHILD CARE--Sen. Alan Cranston, Chair, Child and Human Development Subcommittee, held hearings in California and Washington, D.C. as the first step in developing a variety of child care and child development programs, including family home care.

Legislation to assist low income working families who fall between the cracks because they don't qualify for welfare (yet they get almost no relief from the current \$800 tax credit) will be introduced in late Spring. Also, the waiver on Federal child care staffing requirements has again been extended until public hearings have been held in most states throughout autumn, 1978. Sen. Alan Cranston, Chair, Child and Human Development Subcommittee, 4230 Dirksen Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510

CREDIT--Several pieces of legislation that would affect women have been introduced. Possibly the most effective citizen action at this time would be to urge the House Consumer Affairs Subcommittee to look closely at the new administrative policies being issued on ways to implement the Equal Opportunity Credit Act of 1964, with particular attention to Federal Reserve Board staff opinions EC-007 and 8, which would allow creditors to deny credit at the point of sale without previous notice, and would permit questions about race, sex, color etc. if information were needed for "marketing purposes."

Credit activists are now suggesting that implementation of the Equal Opportunity Credit Act should rest with the Office of Civil Rights in the Department of Justice, rather than with the Federal Reserve Board, which has a poor record in enforcing the regulations. To request hearings, contact your U.S. representative and Rep. Frank Annunzio, Chair, House Consumer Affairs Subcommittee, 2129 Rayburn Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515

EDUCATION--It is expected that amendments to weaken Title IX, especially in athletics, will be attached to education bills, particularly amendments to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (HR 15 and S1735), which are being considered in both the House and Senate Committees on Education.

Another education bill to watch is S1780, which would reorganize and consolidate certain state and local elementary and secondary education programs, including special projects to provide educational equity for women.

Sen. Harrison Williams, Chair	Rep. Carl Perkins, Chair
Senate Human Resources Committee	House Education and Labor Committee
4230 Dirksen Bldg.,	2181 Rayburn Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510	Washington, D.C. 20515

EMPLOYMENT--HR 50, Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment legislation, has moved through House and Senate hearings; a committee report to the full Senate is due by May 15.

Displaced homemaker legislation providing for 50 centers for counseling, training and placement of displaced homemakers has been introduced in the House (Burke) and the Senate (Bayh). Hearings were held, and provisions in the legislation are expected to

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be included in CETA (Comprehensive Employment & Training Act) which is up for renewal this year. Displaced homemaker programs will compete with other CETA programs for funds. Committee contacts for both HR 50 and CETA are:

Sen. Gaylord Nelson, Chair
Senate Employment, Poverty and
Migratory Labor Subcommittee
Annex A-703, Washington DC, 20510

Rep. Augustus Hawkins, Chair
House Employment Opportunities
Subcommittee, 2181 Rayburn Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

HR7814(Solarz) establishes a 3-year experimental program to test the expanded use of flexible and compressed work schedules in the federal government. HR10126(Burke) requires agencies to establish part-time hiring programs, setting their own goals and time-tables. It also requires the Civil Service Commission to provide technical assistance. Each agency and the Commission would report regularly to Congress on the progress of their part-time hiring program. The Solarz and Burke bills were approved by the House in January. The companion bills S517 and S518(Nelson) may reach the Senate floor in late May. Contact your U.S. senators to express your views.

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT--HJ Res 638(Holtzman) would extend the deadline for the ratification of ERA for seven more years. Hearings were held in November 1977 regarding the constitutionality of the proposal. At this time, no further hearings are scheduled. Rep. Don Edwards, Chair, House Civil and Constitutional Rights Subcommittee, 2137 Rayburn Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515

Two bills that would work against the ratification of ERA are: HR 9812(Hansen), which would recognize State efforts to rescind ratification, and HR 7008(Hyde) calling a Constitutional Convention to propose amendments. Though directed toward the abortion rights issue, this bill also allows rescissions of ratification by States.

HEALTH--National Health Insurance has been introduced for the past six years without action. At this time both House and Senate committees await the Administration proposal (President Carter endorsed NHI in his campaign), and hearings are being planned for late summer. Committees to contact:

Sen. Edward Kennedy, Chair
Senate Health & Scientific Research
Subcommittee, 4220 Dirksen Bldg.,
Washington, D.C. 20510

Rep. Paul Rogers, Chair
House Health and Environment
Subcommittee, 2415 Rayburn,
Washington, D.C. 20515

Contacts on other health issues important to women:

*To urge hearings on the possibility of the Food and Drug Administration monitoring and regulating hair dyes, write Rep. Rogers at the address above.

*To urge improved appropriations for contraceptive research under the National Institute of Health, reach Sen. Warren Magnuson, who is Chair of both the Senate Appropriations Committee, 1235 Dirksen Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20510; and of the Labor Health, Education & Welfare Subcommittee, 1235 Dirksen Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510.

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Also reach:

Rep. George Mahon, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
H218 (Capitol),
Washington, D.C. 20515

Rep. Daniel Flood, Chair
Labor, Health, Education & Welfare
Subcommittee, 2358 Rayburn Bldg.,
Washington, D. C. 20515

HOMEMAKERS AND OLDER WOMEN--

*HR3247 (Fraser/Keyes, with 60 co-sponsors) would remove many inequities in current social security law, and would provide each homemaker with a social security account. HEW and the Department of Justice are collecting information and will release their findings in July, at which time the Social Security subcommittee intends to hold hearings. Supporters of the concept should contact James Burke, Chair, Social Security Subcommittee
241 Cannon Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20515

* Displaced homemakers action is expected in CETA renewal, but it is not assured. Interest appears greater in the House than the Senate. See Employment section (p. 4) for Nelson subcommittee address.

* HR 4649 (Trible) and S1783(Anderson) would amend the Internal Revenue Code to permit a homemaker to take a tax deduction for payments into personal retirement savings, with payments based on the spouse's income. Hearings have been held in the House with favorable response. This legislation is expected to take the form of an amendment to the Administration's tax reform package, due this summer. Committee contacts:

Sen. Russell Long, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
2227 Dirksen Bldg.

Washington, D.C. 20510

Rep. Al Ullman, Chair
House Ways and Means Committee
1102 Longworth Bldg.

Washington, D.C. 20515

*HR 8771(Spellman) requires that the Civil Service Commission comply with terms of any court decree or property settlement in connection with divorce, annulment or legal separation where pension benefits have been part of a property settlement. There is no duration of marriage requirement. The bill has passed the House. To urge Senate action, reach Sen. Abraham Ribicoff, Chair, Government Operations Committee, 3308 Dirksen Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510.

*HR 9412(Leach) mandates the Civil Service Commission to divide benefits according to the length of a marriage if the courts refuse to do so. A five year marriage minimum is required. To urge hearings on this bill, contact Rep. Gladys Spellman, Chair, House Compensation & Employed Benefits, B-345 D, Rayburn Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20515.

*HR 11354(Schroeder) would entitle former spouses of military personnel, married at least ten years, to a prorated share of military retirement pay and survivor's benefits. In addition, the bill makes survivor's benefits mandatory for retirees who have a spouse or former spouse, unless the beneficiary declines the benefits. Committee contact: Rep. Bill Nichols, Chair, House Military Compensation Subcommittee, 2120 Rayburn Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20515.

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Rep. Schroeder will soon introduce similar legislation covering foreign service pensions. This bill would be referred to the International Relations Subcommittee on International Operations, chaired by Dante B. Fascell, 2256 Rayburn Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515.

INSURANCE--Sen. Howard Metzenbaum of Ohio held hearings in January, 1978, on discrimination in the insurance industry. Copies of the testimony may be requested from Sen. Metzenbaum, 342 Russell Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20510.

HR 390(Holt) and HR 804(Holtzman) have introduced similar legislation to prohibit insurance discrimination based on sex, and to allow suit in Federal court. Send requests for hearings to: Rep. Fred Rooney, Chair, House Transportation and Commerce Subcommittee, 360 House Annex 2, Washington, D. C. 20515.

PREGNANCY DISABILITY LEGISLATION:

HR 6075 and its Senate companion bill S995 insure under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act that pregnant workers cannot be discriminated against in insurance and disability plans. However, on March 1 the House Education and Labor Committee by a vote of 19-12 attached an amendment excluding abortion from coverage. The legislation must now go to a Senate/House conference committee for resolution of the conflict. If lengthy negotiations on previous anti-abortion amendments are any indication, a time-consuming process lies ahead. Reach Congressional Representatives to communicate your views on the legislation, and on the anti-abortion rider.

MEDIA--HR 11100, the Administration's Public Broadcasting and Financing Act, is pending before both House and Senate subcommittees on Communications. One of the bill's objectives is to increase minority programming and ownership, but, as yet, there is no mention of women. Hearings will be set for mid-April, pending an amendment from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to clarify enforcement procedures for public broadcasting. Committee contacts:

Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, Chair,	Rep. Lionel Van Deerlin, Chair
Communications Subcommittee	Communications Subcommittee
233 Russell Bldg.,	2125 Rayburn Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20510	Washington, D. C. 20515

The House Subcommittee on Communication is currently redrafting the Communications Act of 1934, in hopes of producing a bill during spring, 1978.

MINORITY WOMEN--(See Credit, p. 3, and Media, p. 6)

RAPE--S1437, the Criminal Code Reform of 1977, which passed the Senate, contains several sections redefining rape. If this legislation passes the House, rape within marriage will be a recognized offense, and the definition of a spouse will be revised. Additionally, rape may be tried in connection with other Federal offenses. There is also a strong provision protecting the rape victim's privacy by barring evidence regarding a victim's past sexual history. These sections reflect the National Plan of Action resolution. It should be noted, however, that the overall Criminal Code Reform bill still contains components opposed by a number of civil liberties groups.

Hearings for the companion bill in the House, HR 6869, continue through the end of March. Committee contact: Rep. James Mann, Chair, House Criminal Justice Subcommittee, 2137 Rayburn Bldg., Washington, D.C., 20515.

HR 4726(Holtzman) bars rape trial evidence about a victim's past sexual conduct unless (1) it deals with a past relationship with the defendant or (2) it is evidence of past sexual behavior with someone other than the accused and is offered to rebut a victim's claim that the rape caused pregnancy or injury.

S2565 (Mathias) and Representatives Waxman/Steers have introduced legislation that would give the National Center for the Prevention and Control of Rape the ability to enter into contracts with State and local governments and non-profit organizations for direct services such as counseling and training programs for personnel to assist rape victims and offenders. The bill has been referred to the Health Committees (addresses in Health section, p. 4).

REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM--(see Employment section on pregnancy disability legislation) Intensive efforts continue to restrict abortion services by attaching amendments to existing legislation. The Hyde amendment -- which permits a federally funded abortion only in cases of rape or incest or where the mother's life would otherwise be endangered or if severe and long-lasting physical damage would result -- may be attached to other appropriations measures concerned with government funded health plans or family planning or pregnancy related legislation. Possibly susceptible bills include foreign assistance acts and defense appropriations as well as labor/ health, education and welfare appropriations and the reauthorization of the Select Committee on Population.

The Adolescent Health, Services and Pregnancy Prevention and Care Act of 1978, the "cornerstone" of the Administration's teenage initiative, is yet to be submitted to Congress. It has been reported that one half of the \$60 million funding proposed for the Act would go for services. The other half is for "coordination and linkage," administration and training. Of the funds for services, the emphasis is on pregnancy care, vocational and employment counseling, measures to encourage pregnant and parenting teens to stay in school, but not for day care.

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HR 11007 (Beilenson), the Comprehensive Family Planning Services, Research in Human Reproduction and the Prevention of Unwanted Teenage Pregnancy Act of 1978, would add \$35 million to the current funding, service an additional 500,000 new patients, earmark another \$35 million for teen services, initiate community education programs to reach teens and their parents, initiate demonstration projects to assist with infertility problems, and upgrade research in human reproduction and contraceptive methods.

RURAL WOMEN--HR 6360(Thone) would eliminate the estate and gift tax on property or assets passed on to a surviving spouse.

HR 9902(Keys) allows the continuation of a farm's "family farm" status (for estate tax purposes), even when the owner, a woman whose husband may have died, employs a farm manager. Committee contact: Al Ullman, Chair, House Ways and Means Committee, 1102 Longworth Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20515.

SPORTS--The Amateur Sports Act of 1978 (Stevens/Culver/Stone) would broaden the powers of the U.S. Olympic Committee, making it a coordinating body for amateur sports in the U.S., and would ensure better training and facilities for amateur athletics. The bill calls for fair treatment of women, both in representation on the governing body and in awards of financial assistance. The legislation seeks to remove many barriers preventing amateur athletes from freely participating in competitions of their choice.

SEXUAL PREFERENCE--Several bills pending before the House Civil and Constitutional Rights Subcommittee amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to forbid discrimination based on sexual preference. At this time hearings are neither scheduled or projected for the remainder of this session. Committee contact: Rep. Don Edwards, Chair, House Civil and Constitutional Rights Subcommittee, 2137 Rayburn Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20515.

STATISTICS--SJ RES 99 (Matsunega) provides for improvements in collection, analysis and publication of census data on women in professional, technical and managerial positions. No hearings have been scheduled, and there is no companion bill in the House. Committee contact: Sen. Abraham Ribicoff, Chair, Government Affairs Committee, 3308 Dirksen Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20510

WELFARE-- HR 10950, Better Jobs and Income Act, the Administration proposal plus amendments, has been reported out of the House Welfare Reform Subcommittee and has gone to the three standing committees that deal with Welfare. There is no definite time table, though it is hoped that legislation may go to the House floor by April. The Senate Finance Committee held hearings in early February and there are no future activities planned at this time. To make an in-depth comparison with the Plan of Action, which opposed facets of the Carter proposal, request a summary of HR 10950 from: Rep. Thomas Foley, Chair, Agriculture Committee, 3101 Longworth Bldg., DC zip 20515; Rep. Carl Perkins, Chair, Education & Labor Committee, 2181 Rayburn Bldg., DC zip 20515; or Rep. Al Ullman, Chair, Ways & Means 1102 Longworth Bldg., DC zip 20515.

MISCELLANY, LAST CALL ANNOUNCEMENTS--

Attention, Delegation Chairs: If you know of any delegates or alternates from your state who have moved, please send changes of address to IWY, Post Office Box 1567, Washington, D.C. 20013. Mark "Please Forward" on each envelope.

Attention delegates, delegates at large: If you are changing address, please send the following information to the IWY office at the address above: your name, address, zip code, and voting status (i.e. delegate, delegate at large, alternate).

Keeping track of state reports -- The IWY office has received several requests concerning the availability of final state reports. Some coordinating committees have printed bulk copies of their state meeting reports; others may have turned over a single historical document to the Governor or to the State's Commission on the Status of Women. Committee chairs and/or historians are urged to inform IWY what disposition has been made of their reports, and whether copies are still available to the general public. If writing, send your envelope care of "State Reports." Or call collect for Ms. Reiner, 202-632-7768. Please don't delay.

Conference memorabilia -- Breakthrough Foundation, Inc. has available commemorative issues of Breakthrough, the women's newspaper which provided daily coverage of the National Women's Conference; 104 pages total, \$3.00 plus 70¢ postage. Their address is PO Box 88072, Houston, Texas 77004.

Check libraries, newsstands-- The January issue of Horizon, and an upcoming issue of Atlantic Monthly contain stories on the National Women's Conference.

National Women's Conference slide shows -- now available from the International Women's Tribune Centre, 345 East 46th St., Room 815, New York, NY 10017:

"THE DECLARATION OF AMERICAN WOMEN, 1977" is an 80-frame, 15-minute show with taped cassette. The script is the National Women's Conference Declaration read in Houston by Jean Stapleton, Coretta Scott King and Lupe Anguiano. Slides show the Torch relay, plenary sessions, key speakers, protest marches, Seneca Falls South, exhibits, well-known public figures and former First Ladies. Purchase price: \$40.00

"AMERICAN WOMEN ON THE MOVE," an 80-frame, 15 minute taped narrative and script presents the drama, diversity and achievement of the National Women's Conference. The presentation focuses on issues and resolutions. Purchase price: \$40.00.

IWY Workshop Guidelines, including fact sheets and resource lists. (Prepared initially for use at State IWY Meetings)

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Order by stock number from: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Copies are \$1.25 each.

LEGAL STATUS OF HOMEMAKERS BOOKLETS STOCKED BY U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20402. Copies are \$1.25 each.

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COMMISSION RESOLUTIONS

In action February 26, 1978, the IWY Commission announced the following resolutions:

"The IWY Commission asks President Carter to follow the lead of many national organizations by prohibiting federal agencies from holding interstate conferences and conventions in unratified states (those not supporting the Equal Rights Amendment), and commends the Conference of Rural American Women for having adopted a similar resolution."

* * * *

"The IWY Commissioners deplore the fact that support for the ERA has not been used as a criterion by COPE (Committee on Political Education), the political action committee of the AFL-CIO, in its endorsement of the candidates for the state legislature in Illinois and certain other states.

"The IWY Commission further moves to request a meeting at the earliest possible time with President George Meany and other top leaders of the AFL-CIO to discuss this and other related matters."

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*Since there will be no new appropriations for IWY activities, we would appreciate a contribution to cover future printing and mailing costs.

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