

toward achieving the specific targets, including "activities and programs being conducted by private enterprise and governmental agencies to increase conservation of energy, to implement conversion of utilities and industries from oil and natural gas to another energy resource and to build up energy resource stockpiles."

In addition to energy conservation, the bill calls for "the development and commercial utilization on a large scale of coal conversion and coal liquification technology," and there is no mention of nuclear power.

The second bill, "Energy Policy Act," would establish a 3-member Energy Policy Council in the Executive Office. Its purpose is to advise the President on energy policy within the framework of the goals and policies of the Energy Mobilization Board. In fact, the Policy Council is identical to Carter's proposed Executive Energy Department which will be directed by James Schlesinger.

Senate Bill introduced on Jan. 25 by Harrison Williams (D-NJ) as the National Energy Center Act. The Bill

would centralize all Federal energy conservation programs and Federal research and development in a National Energy Center. The core of the Center will be an Energy Conservation Service mandated to set up regional centers throughout the country with conservation training and propaganda programs.

"These field representatives would then be sent to operate out of metropolitan, city, suburban, and rural offices to advise and provide technical assistance (on conservation) and expertise to all sectors of the community."

Senate Bill introduced on Jan. 10 by Henry Jackson (D-Wa) to authorize appropriations for development of non-nuclear energy resources.

The bill provides funding in the following categories: \$541.4 million for fossil projects, \$319.7 for solar energy, \$241.5 million for energy conservation, \$148.1 million for environmental research and \$216.3 million for program support.

**EXCLUSIVE**

## Carter Seeks Large-Scale Program Of 'Pick And Shovel' Publicly-Funded Jobs

The Ohio Civilian Conservation Corps legislation which would enroll the state's youth in militarized labor-intensive work camps modeled on the Roosevelt CCC was suddenly resurrected this week and rammed through the state House of Representatives by a 72 to 16 margin yesterday. The bill, sponsored by Carter Democrat State Senator Wilkowski and Rep. Zimmer, has the full backing of the Carter Administration, which is planning a broad program of similar legislation on a national scale.

Carter Democrats last week reintroduced onto the floors of both the House and Senate the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act, and the National Employment Priorities Act of 1974 (NEPA). The NEPA bill — more widely known as then-Senator Walter Mondale's "boxcar bill" — provides for the forcible relocation of workers laid off during the energy crisis to Humphrey-Hawkins-established labor camps.

**Wilkowski:**

### 'Once We Get Conservation Camps, Then We Go For Coal Gasification Plants'

The following interview was conducted Feb. 17 with Ohio Democratic State Senator Arthur Wilkowski. The interview was conducted by an independent journalist and made available to the Executive Intelligence Review.

**Q:** I understand that you have introduced an important piece of Youth employment legislation into the state legislature. What will it do?

**Wilkowski:** That's right. My Civilian Conservation Corps legislation passed the state House yesterday. It calls for the establishment of a pilot project on 200,000 acres of strip-mined land in the southeastern section of the state. 200 youth would be enrolled in this camp to reclaim the land. If things go well with this project, then the State Director of Natural Resources would authorize at least two more camps doing other things. We are working on some other work project areas, including a soil erosion project near and around Lake Erie. We could use some of the heavy equipment of the national guard and maybe even get some national guard supervision. We've had a rough winter and I'm sure we're going to have a rough spring. If my program were functioning, then the kids could be called up in an emergency situation like the severe snow storm we had or floods.

**Q:** Are you working with people on the national level? There are similar proposals in the Congress.

**Wilkowski:** Of course. I've worked with Rep. Meeds (D-Wash., ed.) and Rep. Pease, the newly elected chairman of the Freshman Democratic Caucus. They have assured me that my bill will get funded from the Federal level. The present public service legislation has a provision calling for \$40 million "seed money" for state programs such as mine. When the \$9.3 billion jobs stimulus package gets passed, there will be some \$400 million available.

**Q:** I understand that Sens. Javits and Humphrey have a national youth employment bill that incorporates a CCC

plan almost identical to yours.

*Wilkowski:* That's right. My bill will plug right into the Humphrey-Javits legislation. The Carter Administration is solidly behind a youth employment program. My bill is a step in that direction. I have met several times while in Washington recently with Sens. Javits and Humphrey and their aides. They think the bill is great and were a big help to me. I guess my bill is very helpful to them.

*Q:* I understand that Gov. Rhodes vetoed the bill last November. Why was that?

*Wilkowski:* I'll be damned if I know. We have a wierdo governor. Here I was in his office only the day before he vetoed it and he tells me that he was going to sign it. I can't figure this wimp out. I introduced the bill last fall and it overwhelmingly passed the House. Then it passes the Senate by 32 or 33 to 1. It goes to the Governor's desk. He holds it for more than a week and he vetoes it. We need 60 votes in the House to override. The governor calls his troops into line and we can get only 59 votes, so the override fails. Well, now we have a veto-proof legislature. My bill will pass the Senate and the Governor can do whatever the hell he pleases with it. Then we override. He is saying that he would probably sign the bill — but who the hell knows with him. If his head is screwed on right he will. But I don't know.

*Q:* Is there any opposition to the bill? What about the labor movement?

*Wilkowski:* Let's just say the labor movement is not against it. Why should they be? It gives out-of-work kids jobs in a healthy environment. About the only people who are against it is the American Labor Party. They put up signs all over the state saying that I wanted to set up concentration camps—"Send Your Kid to a real summer camp, not a CCC concentration camp." They are a strange bunch. They don't take baths and they look scraggly, like bums. They came to hearings I held in Toledo and tried to break it up. But they look so scraggly and don't use shampoo, that they actually help me. Ha, ha. They help. Why, the fact that these people are against it will make many Republicans vote for it. They lobby a lot here in Columbus. Here, their people dress decently.

I'm surprised that they didn't do anything in the House. Maybe we caught them off guard, the bill came to the floor after only 1 hour of hearings. After all, it was the same as the one from the last session. I'm sure that they will be around, unbathed, for the Senate debate. I'm not afraid of them, not in the least.

*Q:* How many jobs will the program create?

*Wilkowski:* It's hard to say. Several thousand. But it is really dependent on the passage of Humphrey-Javits. In the 1930s, CCC programs put 2 million people to work. I think that we could have about 800,000 for starters here.

*Q:* Will these programs have any relationship to the energy crisis?

*Wilkowski:* Again that is tricky. We're studying it. This strip-mining reclamation is an indirect connection. Schlesinger, after all, said that he favored strip-mining regulation to incorporate environmental complaints. But I'm studying more direct possibilities, but you'll have to wait for the answer on that one until Carter unveils his program.

I will tell you that I am working now on some legislation that I regard as every bit as important as the CCC bill — if not more important. This involves state funding of an effort to construct large numbers of coal gasification plants. We have a lot of high sulfur coal in the state that environmental legislation prevents us from using. We can gasify it and use it to power our utilities instead of natural gas. (Sen. Jennings Randolph of West Virginia has legislation in Congress calling for this — ed.) I don't know why the hell we don't push coal gasification. Every time I bring it up the Public Utilities Commission says I'm nuts. Well I'm not nuts. The Germans have used it, and they have new processes which no one wants even to look at. The Governor is another problem. He has this group, Rhodes raiders. First he went to Quebec to get gas. Now he goes to Houston. Well why does he have to go to all these places? We have the coal right here in the state needed to produce gas. He has an interest in Wimpy's hamburgers. Maybe he's taking these trips to set up new franchises. I don't think the Governor has the slightest idea what the energy crisis is all about. He's a little crazy.

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## Senate Conservatives Position Themselves On Key Committees

At the closed door meetings of the Democratic and Republican Senate Policy Committees this week where permanent Senate committee assignments were finalized, conservative, growth-oriented Senators successfully retained contested chairmanships of key committees while strengthening their overall position on several important committees. The Senate conservatives fought hard to increase their weight on the pivotal Finance, Commerce, and Armed Services Committees, whose powers overlap the control over military, economic and foreign policy exercised by the Banking, Energy, and Foreign Relations Committees, all dominated by Wall Street allies. They are also working

behind the scenes to remove jurisdiction over nuclear energy from the Energy subcommittee of administration ally Frank Church (D-Idaho), and place it in a separate committee.

If they make use of the full constitutional powers of the committees they dominate, conservatives are in a position to challenge the Administration on every major foreign policy, military and economic question.

The Democratic Policy Committee voted to keep conservatives, many of them southern-based, as chairmen of seven important committees. These are:

Agriculture: Senator Herman Talmadge (Georgia)

Appropriations: Senator John McClellan (Arkansas)