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Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

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VETERANS' RELIEF

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, this morning, I have received a number of communications from Montana, one from the commander in chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. In brief, the tenor of these telegrams from the veterans organizations of the State, the veterans, those who are interested in veterans' welfare, as well as Mr. Rainwater, are under the impression that the veterans' pension bill, H.R. 15911, has been reported separately by the Finance Committee and they are, to quote Mr. Rainwater:

Shocked to learn there is no indication Senate will bring this bill up before Congress adjourns. If this legislation is not approved by 91st Congress, 150,000 veterans, mostly older World War I veterans, will have their VA pension cut or canceled.

Urgently request every effort be extended to have H.R. 15911 considered immediately.

This measure has not been reported from the Senate Finance Committee, which has been working for months on very complicated legislation dealing with social security, welfare reform and import quotas. I have been informed, however, that a similar bill has been attached as an amendment to the social security, import quota, family assistance, et cetera, bill which should be reported to the Senate by next Monday.

The fate of this measure is unknown at this time. If, however—and I speak on behalf of the joint leadership in this respect—H.R. 15911 is reported to the Senate as a separate measure, we want to assure all of those concerned that we will make every possible effort to see that it is considered expeditiously and passed.

Mr. SCOTT. We will, indeed.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a number of telegrams which I received all of a sud-

den from Montana be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the telegrams were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

WASHINGTON, D.C.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.:

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is pleased that Veterans Pension Bill, H.R. 15911, has been reported separately by Finance Committee. Shocked to learn there is no indication Senate will bring this bill up before Congress adjourns. If this legislation is not approved by 91st Congress, 150,000 veterans, mostly older World War I veterans, will have their VA pensions cut or canceled.

Urgently request every effort be extended to have H.R. 15911 considered immediately.

H.R. RAINWATER,
Commander in Chief,
Veterans of Foreign Wars.

HELENA, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.:

The Social Security increase enacted last year will result in approximately 150,000 needy and disabled veterans suffering reductions in non-service connected VA pension benefits on January 1, 1971, if the Pension Bill H.R. 15911 is not enacted prior to adjournment to the 91st Congress we therefore urge that you schedule H.R. 15911 for early consideration on the Senate floor.

Sincerely,

JOHN E. SLOAN,
DAV National Service Officer.

HELENA, MONT.

Senator MIKE MANSFIELD,
Washington, D.C.:

Urgently request you arrange for rescheduling of H.R. 15911, veterans' pension bill for enactment before January 1 in order to prevent loss of Veterans' Administration pension by more than 150,000 veterans and widows.

Sincerely, yours,

DAVID W. ARMSTRONG, Jr.,
Director, Montana Veterans Welfare
Commission.

BILLINGS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
U.S. Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR MANSFIELD: Social security legislation enacted last year will result in approximately 150,000 needy and disabled veterans suffering reduction in VA pension benefits on Jan. 1, 1971, if the pension bill, H.R. 15911, is not enacted prior to adjournment of the 91st Congress. We therefore urge that you schedule House bill, H.R. 15911, for early consideration on the Senate floor.

Sincerely,

ALBERT C. THORMAHLEN,
Commander of Billings Chapter 10, Dis-
abled American Veterans.

GREAT FALLS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
Washington, D.C.:

On behalf of 1,230 VFW members we are asking you to reschedule H.R. 15911.

WAYNE PICKETT,
Commander, VFW Post 1087.

GREAT FALLS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
Washington, D.C.

The Ladies Auxiliary to VFW 1087 are asking you to reschedule H.R. 15911.

EDITH HOUGE,
President, Ladies Auxiliary.

BILLINGS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
U.S. Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR MANSFIELD: Social security legislation enacted last year will result in approximately a hundred and fifty thousand needy and disabled veterans suffering reductions in VA pension benefits on January 1, 1971, if the pension bill H.R. 15911 is not enacted prior to adjournment of the 91st Congress. We therefore urge that you schedule House Resolution H.R. 15911 for early consideration on the Senate floor.

Sincerely,

BERTHA REITER,
Commander, Billings Unit 10,
Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

BILLINGS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
U.S. Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR MANSFIELD: Social security legislation enacted last year will result in approximately 150,000 needy and disabled American veterans suffering reductions in veterans administration pension benefits on January 1, 1971 if pension bill H.R. 15911 is not enacted prior to the adjournment of the 91st Congress. We therefore urge that you schedule H.R. 15911 for early consideration on Senate floor.

Sincerely,

DONALD E. KEIFER,
Commander Military Order
of the Purple Heart, Chapter 343.

BILLINGS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
U.S. Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR MANSFIELD: Social security legislation enacted last year will result in approximately 150,000 needy and disabled veterans suffering reduction in V.A. pension benefits on Jan. 1, 1971, if the pension bill H.R. 15911 is not enacted prior to adjournment of the 91st Congress. We therefore urge that you schedule House resolution H.R. 15911 for early consideration on the Senate floor.

WILLIAM W. JEFFERIES,
Commander, Department of
Montana Disabled American Veterans.

BILLINGS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR MANSFIELD: Social security legislation enacted last year will result in approximately 150,000 needy and disabled veterans suffering reduction in a VA pension benefit on Jan. 1, 1970 if pension bill H.R. 15911 is not enacted prior to adjournment of the 91st Congress. We therefore urge that you schedule House resolution H.R. 15911 for early consideration on Senate floor.

Loyally yours,

ALBERT JUNKERT,
Commander, VFW Post 1634.

MISSOULA, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.:

Please do utmost to bring HR 15911 up for action anything less tragic.

Wm. HEIKKINEN.

BILLINGS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.:

Social security legislation enacted last year will result in approximately 150,000 needy and disabled veterans suffering reduction in VA pension benefits on Jan 1, 1971 if pension bill HR 15911 is not enacted, prior to ad-

journalment of the 91st Congress. I therefore urge that you schedule House Resolution HR 15911 for early consideration on the Senate floor.

ELSIE M. ROGERS,
President, Midland Empire Chapter
459, National Association of Retired
Federal Employees.

BOZEMAN, MONT.

Senator MIKE MANSFIELD,
Washington, D.C.:

We urge your support on HR 15911.

T. R. TOWNSEND,
Commander, Major Drennan Post 903.

MISSOULA, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.:

Senate delay in passage H.R. 15911 is critical to older veterans who will lose veterans' pensions due to social security raise without income limitation protection which H.R. 15911 would provide. Please do everything within your power to get this bill out of Senate Finance Committee for Senate vote prior to adjournment. Older veterans drawing pensions and social security benefits are still below Government-established poverty level. Very critical.

J. G. KING,
Legislative Chairman,
Veterans of World War I.

GREAT FALLS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
Washington, D.C.:

Request you do all possible to reschedule H.R. 15911. This bill is of great concern to us as veterans.

Mr. and Mrs. RENO MICHELOTTI.

GREAT FALLS, MONT.

Senator MIKE MANSFIELD,
Washington, D.C.:

Understand that Veterans' Administration appropriation bill is now part of House Resolution 15911. Request the Veterans' Administration benefit portion be rescheduled for later consideration in order to be properly processed and passed.

THE WYLIE GALT POST AND UNIT 99,
AMERICAN LEGION.

GREAT FALLS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
Washington, D.C.:

This 586 member legion post meeting in general session urgently requests you take action to reschedule H.R. 15911. This bill vital to all veterans.

AMERICAN LEGION POST No. 3.

BILLINGS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR MANSFIELD: Social security legislation enacted last year will result in approximately 150,000 needy and disabled veterans suffering reduction in V.A. pension benefits on Jan. 1, 1971, if the pension bill H.R. 15911 is not enacted prior to adjournment of the 91st Congress. We therefore urge that you schedule House Resolution 15911 for early consideration on the Senate floor.

Sincerely,

Cmdr. EDWARD R. YOUNG.

GREAT FALLS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
Washington, D.C.:

Urgently request you take action to reschedule H.R. 15911. This bill vital to all veterans.

TOM ALLISON,
Secretary, Cascade County Veterans
Council.

BILLINGS, MONT.

HON. MIKE MANSFIELD,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR MANSFIELD: Social security legislation enacted last year will result in approximately a hundred and fifty thousand needy and disabled veterans suffering reductions in VA pension benefits on January 1, 1971, if the pension bill H.R. 15911 is not enacted prior to adjournment of the 91st Congress. We therefore urge that you schedule House Resolution 15911 for early consideration on the Senate floor.

Sincerely,

HELEN B. HUGHES,
Montana Department Commander,
Disabled American Veterans Aux-
iliary.