

BOB GUTTMAN

July 21, 1982

I went around to get some of the documents. It was a good time. Mary did lots of xeroxing for me. Bob had time to talk as he returned phone calls. Diane was working on a case of job discrimination in Indiana (the file was 2" thick--a crank problem). There was a new person replacing Vi Thompson. It was a quiet time, as opposed to the earlier sense of pressure. The bill will come up on the House floor next week sometime.

"It's funny," says Bob. "All the interest groups are working the House side now."

The House picture is very cloudy. Erlenborn is not close to the admin. and hasn't agreed to sponsor their proposal so Bob doesn't know who will push the admin. position--which is now the Senate bill.

"The administration has cut one bill into five pieces and has made each one into an amendment. They want someone to push them on the floor, but I don't know who will do it. Erlenborn is not enthused about it. The irony of the situation is that the administration, after having fought and obstructed our bill all the way has now adopted it as its bill and is telling everyone how wonderful it is."

He thinks the House will pass it and that "the two bills will be worlds apart," that they will hold a conference very quickly. that the conferees will instruct the staffs to start working something out and that the working out will take till September. It might not take that long, except that House has decided to recess on August 20 and that upsets Bob a little.

We didn't talk much about the bill. Bruce Navarro of Nickle's staff came in and they talked about age discrimination. Bob wants Dan to get interested

in that as a way to make some political hay. They talked about the meeting this morning when East used a procedure to adjourn a meeting where Hatch was trying to get subpoena power to investigate FBI re Donovan case, etc.

Bob thinks Labor is a bad committee for Dan, that only Health is worthwhile politically and that Hatch and Kennedy keep that on the full committee. "He should look for another committee." says Bob. He thinks there's certainly nothing more for this subcommittee to do. "There's stuff on productivity, but that's very abstract and academic. It's no good politically."

A lot depends on Hatch's election. If Hatch "I guess you don't refuse a chairmanship." But he'd like to see Dan on Finance. "He's got this tax simplification bill. He can talk about it. But you can't do anything on taxes unless you are on the Finance Committee."

He did note, but I didn't press it, that he had explored the idea of a bipartisan bill with Kitty Higgins back in September, well before the press conference and had found Kennedy receptive. "When I went to speak to _____ the other day I reminded them that when Quayle first said, in September, that he wanted a bipartisan bill cosponsored by Kennedy and Hatch, everybody laughed." This was in oblique reply to my laughing question to Bob "Well what did you expect a year and a half ago?" He added, "We were pretty sure about Kennedy at that point, but we couldn't be sure about Hatch--and we still aren't."

Repeatedly. he spoke of the admin. as obstructionist. "I wish some political scientist would write the story of executive-legislative relations in this administration. I was talking to a friend on the Agriculture Committee about their food stamp legislation. The administration is not being obstructionist, as they were on our bill, but they are not participants. Food Stamp revisions are going along without them. The same on the immigration bill. They aren't

obstructionist here either, but they just aren't interested in it. They have an amendment here or there that they want, but this is the biggest rewrite of immigration policy in years and they are not really involved."