HOUSE ACTION SAVES TEST SITE

WASHINGTON---The House of Representatives today voted to restore some \$15 million to the Atomic Energy Commission's weapons testing program.

Congressman David Towell said that restoration of the money apparently means that threatened layoffs at the Nevada Test Site will be averted.

Towell reported that the House passed the AEC bill by voice vote, then sent it back to the Senate for final Congressional approval.

The Nevada Congressman urged his colleagues from the House floor to support the measure, saying that a cutback in the weapons testing program would be premature at this time.

"The United States cannot afford to slow down," he said, "as long as the Soviet Union, China and France continue testing atomic weapons. A strong weapons program also would



help us to maintain a solid bargaining stance at the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks."

Towell also told members of the House that it would be wise to begin now in considering alternate uses for facilities such as the vast Nevada Test Site.

He warned that "the day will come when it is no longer necessary to test and maintain a nuclear arsenal. Simply phasing out the test site would be a great waste of both manpower and money. We must establish new projects which can absorb the existing workforce."

The AEC funds were included in the Public Works package. Two weeks ago, the House deleted about \$15 million from the weapons testing program, but these funds were later written back into the bill in the joint conference committee.

BANK RECORDS TO BE SAFE GUARDED

WASHINGTON--Disclosure of information in savings and checking accounts to government officials would be governed by procedural safeguards under a bill co-sponsored by Nevada Senator Howard Cannon.

Cannon said bank customers at present do not generally know when their financial records are being inspected by government officials until after the fact, if at all.

The bill sets the basic requirements which must be met before federal, state and local government officials can have access to the records of customers of financial institutions.

"Our bill would require the government to inform the customer of the need for access to his records, and would provide the customer an opportunity to assert his procedural rights to oppose disclosure," said Cannon.

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Registrar of Voters

Stanton B. Colton, Registrar of Voters, announced today that any person who thinks they may be a candidate for public office in the 1974 Elections, who is either registered as nonpartisan or is considering changing their party affiliation before becoming a candidate, must change their affiliation or become affiliated with a recognized party in the State of Nevada on or before September 1, 1973.

before September 1, 1973. Nevada Revised Statutes, Section 293.176, states that no person may be a candidate for a party nomination in any primary election if he has changed the designation of his political party affiliation on an official affidavit of registration in the State of Nevada or any other state since September 1, prior to the closing filing date for such election.

This, therefore, means that September 1, of this year, will be the last opportunity that a political candidate may have for changing or affiliating his party designation for next year's election.

Vets Opportunities Expanded

WASHINGTON -- Two bills giving veterans added opportunities for housing health care benefits were expected to be signed into law this week, said Nevada Sen. Howard Cannon.

"These bills will help hundreds of Nevada veterans who had recent problems in buying a home and securing health care," said Cannon.

Cannon, who supported both measures, said one bill empowers the Veteran's Administration (VA) to set the maximum guaranteeable interest rate for VA secured home mortgages.

The temporary legislation which allowed the VA Administrator to set the interest rate for GI bill loans expired June 30. The new legislation would provide the VA with the authority to specify the rate in conjunction with the Federal Housing Administration.

Cannon said the other measure will improve the health care benefits for disabled veterans and their families.

The bill provides hospital and medical care for wives and children of totally and permanently disabled veterans, and for surviving widows and children of veterans who died as a result of service-connected causes.

The measure also provides increased ambulatory and out-patient care opportunities and medical service facilities for veterans.

