

## Jones Introduces Legislation to Restore Coast Guard Services

Hon. Walter B. Jones, Chairman of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, last Friday deployed just-announced cuts in Coast Guard operations and today introduced legislation to secure funding to restore the eliminated services.

Those operations targeted for cuts include closure or reduction of air stations, multi-mission stations, recruiting stations, marine safety offices, vessel documentation offices, merchant mariner licensing offices, boating safety programs, as well as the decommissioning of several Coast Guard cutters and aircraft. Ultimately these cuts will result in personnel reductions which will be spread throughout the Coast Guard. Up to 3500 uniformed positions will have to be eliminated. It is expected that these reductions will total approximately \$45 million. The Coast Guard was authorized \$1.35 billion for fiscal year 1982, already \$46 million less than requested.

In addition, the Coast Guard must commit \$88 million of its budget to cover already approved pay increases. This money will have to be taken from operations, thus forcing another round of cuts in the near future unless extra funding is appropriated.

Stated Jones, "I am amazed that unknown persons within the Administration have forced on the Coast Guard and the Department of Transportation these ill-advised cuts. These reductions will definitely diminish safety of life and property at sea, and obstruct the enforcement of laws dealing with drug smuggling, illegal immigration, and fishing violations by foreign nations. The Coast Guard's main missions are oriented towards defense, safety, and law enforcement. You would think that this present Administration would be receptive to increased funding, but sadly that appears not to be the case. The bill I have introduced will provide enough money to fund Coast Guard operations at current levels, thereby avoiding these cuts. It will not mean an expansion of Coast Guard services at all."

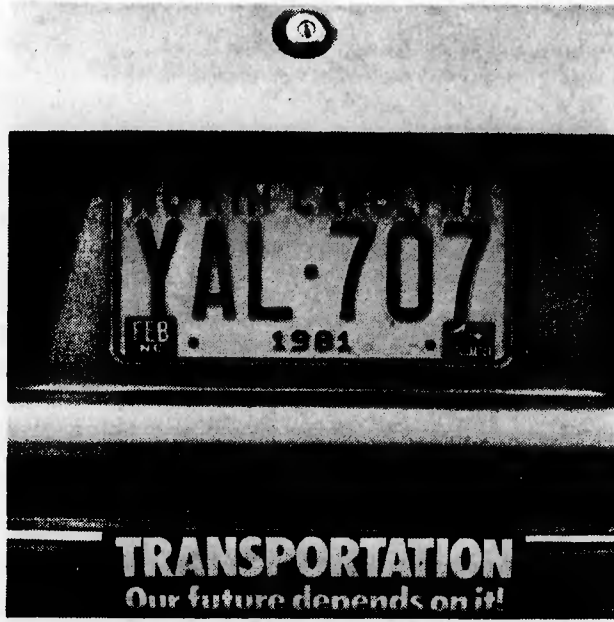
### Domestic Violence

A domestic violence forum for professionals and volunteers who work in programs throughout the state is planned for February 11 in Raleigh. The forum, sponsored by the Council on the Status of Women and the Governor's Task Force on Domestic Violence, will meet at Meredith College to discuss state and local partnerships and corporate and community funding. For details, call Cindi Dorman, Council on the Status of Women, (919) 733-2455.

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Failure to renew an expired license plate sticker is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$100, up to 60 days in jail, or both.

For more information, contact the N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles, Vehicle Services Section, 1100 New Bern Avenue, Raleigh, N.C. 27697.

### Black History Month

That's what February is, and North Carolinians plan a whole range of activities celebrating black history and arts. Call Flora Hatley, (919) 733-4763, or Peggy Howe, (919) 733-5722, for details on a black history symposium and genealogy workshop set for February 12-13 in Raleigh. Call the N.C. Cultural Arts Coalition, (919) 733-6893, for details about arts festivals and celebrations.

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## Incentive Program Saves Money

With the objective of providing more incentive to cut costs further and be more effective and efficient, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) implemented the Incentive Pay Program July 1, 1978. Secretary of Transportation, W. R. "Bill" Roberson, Jr., explained that this program is a "management technique that has traditionally produced excellent results in the private sector can also benefit from it as well."

"This is an important efficiency program that is helping contribute to NCDOT's effort to increase our productivity by \$20 million per year as Gov. Jim Hunt has directed us to do." the secretary noted.

Over the past three years, "the Incentive Pay Program has resulted in a

cost reduction of \$599,573 for the taxpayers of North Carolina while awarding its employee participants \$199,858," said David Hayes, Assistant Secretary for Management.

In determining the awards and cost reduction, Hayes explained that "NCDOT has been extremely careful in measuring the effects of improved productivity methods. We studied, evaluated and measured improvements against previous productivity. We wanted to be absolutely certain that improved productivity, in doing more with less, was being achieved." continued Hayes.

The cash awards to groups depend upon the improved performance of the group and are shared equally by employers.

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