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CONFERENCE COMMITTEE PRINT

H.R. 8217

Summary of Senate Amendments

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SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 8217

Section No.	Amdt. pages	Description
3	1-9	<p><i>Retirement income credit.</i>—Under present law, a retirement income credit of up to \$1,524 multiplied by 15 percent (\$229) is allowed for single persons age 65 or over having retirement income, if the individual had ten prior years of earned income above \$600; the income eligible for this credit is reduced by social security, railroad retirement or other tax-exempt pension income. It is also reduced by 50 percent of earnings over \$1,200 and 100 percent of earnings over \$1,700. (This earnings limitation does not apply to those age 72 and over.) For married couples a credit equal to one and one-half times the credit referred to above is generally available under present law. In addition, under present law, the retirement income credit determined substantially as indicated above is available for retirement income received from governmental units where the individual is under age 65, except that the credit is reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis for earnings above \$900 (between age 62 and 65 the earnings test described above applies).</p> <p>Under the Senate amendment, the credit for a single person would be based upon \$2,500 instead of \$1,524, with no requirement that the individual have had 10 years of prior earnings of \$600 or more. As under present law, the \$2,500 would be reduced for social security, railroad retirement and other tax-exempt pension income. It would also be reduced (if the individual is under age 72) by 50 percent of earnings above \$2,100 instead of 50 percent of earnings above \$1,200 plus 100 percent of earnings above \$1,700. The amount derived in this manner would be multiplied by 15 percent in order to obtain the credit (the new figure gives a maximum credit of \$375). For a married couple, both over age 65, the retirement income credit would be based upon \$3,750 instead of the \$2,500 applicable to a single person.</p>

**SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO
H.R. 8217—Continued**

Section No.	Amdt. pages	Description
3	1-9	For those below age 65 receiving government pension income the \$2,500 would also be applicable but, as under present law, only with respect to government pension income. The earnings test for these persons would be raised from \$900 to \$1,200 for persons under age 62 but for those above that age, the \$2,100 earnings test applies. The revised credit would apply for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1973.
4	9-12	<i>Reimbursement to States for interim SSI payments.</i> —Provides that, upon the authorization of an applicant for Supplemental Security Income, the Social Security Administration may withhold from his first SSI check and pay to the State an amount sufficient to reimburse the State for interim payments made by the State to meet the individual's basic needs while his claim for Federal SSI benefits was being processed. The amendment expires June 30, 1975 with the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare being required to report to Congress at least 60 days prior to that date on his recommendations concerning this provision. (Taft floor amendment to H.R. 14833 adopted by voice vote.)
5	12	<i>Extended unemployment benefits.</i> —Extends until June 30, 1975 the provision of present law which permits States to participate in the extended unemployment compensation program if the rate of insured unemployment in the State is at least 4 percent, without regard to the requirement of permanent law that the insured unemployment rate must also have increased by 20 percent over the prior 2 years. (Ribicoff floor amendment to H.R. 14833 adopted by voice vote.)
6	12	<i>Repayment of general fund advance for 1971 Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act benefits.</i> —Under existing law advances which were made from the general fund to the extended unemployment compensation account in order to pay benefits during the first six months of 1972 under the Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act of 1971 are to be repaid to the general fund by withholding from any distributions which may otherwise become payable under the Reed Act to those States in which Emergency Unemployment benefits were paid. The amendment

SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 8217—Continued

Section No.	Amdt. pages	Description
6	12	would provide instead that these advances are to be repaid to the general fund directly from the extended unemployment account whenever that account has an adequate balance to permit such repayment. (Ribicoff floor amendment to H.R. 14833 adopted by voice vote.)
7	12-17	<i>Automatic cost-of-living increases in Federal and State Supplemental Security Income benefits.</i> —Provides that, whenever Social Security benefits are increased through the automatic cost-of-living increase provisions, an identical percentage increase will take place in the level of income assured to aged, blind, and disabled persons under the Federal SSI program. Also provides that States may not offset such increases in Federal SSI benefits by reducing the amount payable under State supplemental benefit programs. One-half of additional State costs resulting from the amendment would be counted in determining the State's savings clause protection under Public Law 92-603 which assures that States will not have to increase expenditures for the aged, blind, and disabled over 1972 levels. (Mondale floor amendment to H.R. 14833 adopted by voice vote.)
8	17-18	<i>Funding of inspections of long-term care institutions.</i> —Extends until June 30, 1977 authority for 100 percent Federal financing of expenditures for training and compensation of inspectors of long-term care institutions under Medicaid. (Bennett floor amendment to H.R. 14833 adopted by voice vote.)
9	18	<i>Supervisory physicians in teaching hospitals.</i> —Extends period for study of appropriate and equitable reimbursement for physicians' services provided in teaching hospitals until March, 1976; defers until July, 1976 the implementation of the 1972 amendment which provided, in part, that charges would be paid only where teaching hospital patient is private patient. (Bentsen floor amendment to H.R. 14833 adopted by voice vote.)
10	18-20	<i>Medically needy premium.</i> —Removes Title XIX requirement that States must impose a premium or enrollment fee on the medically needy; changes provision from mandatory to optional. (Curtis floor amendment to H.R. 14833 adopted by voice vote.)

Section No.	Amdt. pages	Description
11	20-21	<i>Renegotiation Act study.</i> —Directs the staff of the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation to conduct a comprehensive study and investigation of the operation and effect of the Renegotiation Act, with the results of the study and recommendations reported to the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Finance by May 31, 1975. (Proxmire floor amendment to H.R. 14833 adopted by voice vote.)
12	21-22	<i>Treatment of certain farm rental income.</i> —Provides that an individual land owner who enters into an agreement with a person to manage his farm shall not have his rental income under the agreement counted as income for Social Security purposes, provided that the landowner does not personally participate in the management or production of the farmland. (Curtis floor amendment adopted by voice vote.)
13	22	<i>12-month extension of Renegotiation Act.</i> —Extends Renegotiation Act for 12 months (through June 30, 1975), rather than for 18 months (through December 31, 1975) as in H.R. 14833. (Proxmire floor amendment adopted by voice vote.)

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