

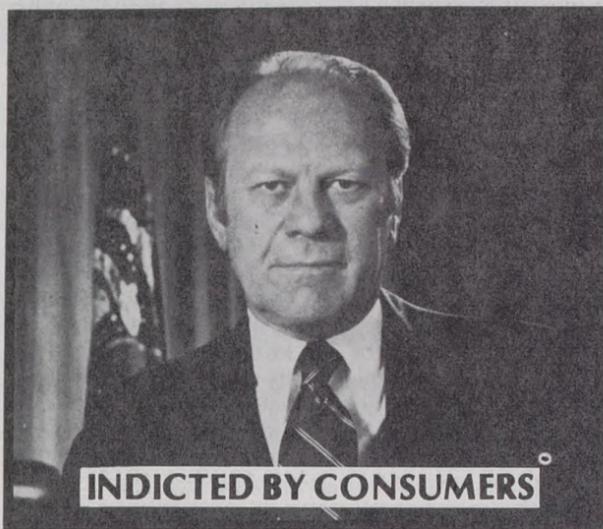


news news news news news

consumer federation of america

Washington, D.C.

October 1976



THE CONSUMERS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

GERALD R. FORD

CRIMINAL NO. 1-76

(Conspiracy to violate the rights of the Consumers of the United States of America; violation of the rights of the consumers of the United States of America)

"From on or about August 8, 1974 to on or about the present, in the United States of America and elsewhere, the defendant, GERALD R. FORD, together with the Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers and the Business Roundtable (a group of trade organizations dedicated to the furtherance of the special interests of big business), co-conspirators named herein but not indicted and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did knowingly and intentionally combine, conspire, conferate and agree together and with each other endanger the health and safety and rip-off the wallets of the Consumers of the United States of America in violation of the most basic principles of fairness and participatory democracy."

The above statement was described as "Count One" in a press release issued by CFA and seven other major consumer organizations on September 23, 1976. The organizations were Consumer Action Now, Maryland Citizens Consumer Council, National Consumers Congress, National Consumers League, National Council of Senior Citizens, Public Citizen and Virginia Citizens Consumer Council. The release, written in the form of an indictment, catalogued eighty-two specific counts of anticonsumerism on the part of President Ford.

Although the indictment was not intended to be comprehensive, presidential actions or inactions in the following areas were listed: Tax Policy, Energy Policy, Health and Safety Regulation, Environmental Protection, Regulatory Reform, Government Subsidies to Private Corporations, Economic Policies and Other Consumer Rights.

The indictment charged that millions of American consumers and workers have had their standard of living lowered by marketplace frauds and their health and safety threatened by product defects and service failures because they were deprived of presidential authority to enforce laws and develop long overdue consumer rights.

CFA's Executive Director, Carol Tucker Foreman, characterized the indictment as "overwhelming evidence of Gerald R. Ford's abuse of basic consumer rights." Ralph Nader further noted that "with the possible exception of the Nixon Administration, never in modern presidential history has there been such a uniformly closed-door policy against consumers. This has extended to almost every announcement from the White House, to almost every appointment to a regulatory agency, to almost every veto or threatened veto of necessary consumer legislation."

The indictment binds over Gerald R. Ford for trial before the jury—the American voters. The ultimate verdict will be delivered on November 2, 1976.

## CFA Announces Consumer Heroes and Zeroes

Consumer Federation of America, the nation's largest consumer organization, has published its voting record for the second session of the 94th Congress. The 1976 voting record is the basis for CFA's new list of consumer Heroes and Zeroes.

Consumer Zeroes are those members of Congress who never voted for the consumer position on 14 key consumer votes in the Senate and 11 in the House. Consumer Heroes always voted in the best interests of consumers.

Senator John A. Durkin scored a perfect 100 percent and was the Senate's only Hero. The Senate's 15 Zeroes for 1976 are James L. Buckley (NY), Paul J. Fannin and Barry Goldwater (AZ), James A. McClure (ID), James O. Eastland (MS), Carl T. Curtis and Roman L. Hruska (NB), Paul Laxalt (NV), Jesse A. Helms (NC), Dewey F. Bartlett (OK), Strom Thurmond (SC), John G. Tower (TX), Jake Garn (UT), William L. Scott (VA) and Clifford P. Hansen (WY).

Seven other Senators, however, never voted against the consumer position but did not score 100 percent because they were absent one or more times. (In computing percentages absences count as wrong votes on the CFA tally). These "Absent Advocates" and the number of votes they missed are Senators Edmund S. Muskie (ME) (1), Edward M. Kennedy (MA) (1), James Abourezk (SD) (1), Gaylord Nelson (WI) (1), Thomas J. McIntyre (NH) (3), Frank Church (ID) (8) and John V. Tunney (CA) (9).

These Senators are joined in the House of Representatives by 38 Heroes, 62 Zeroes and 49 Absent Advocates. (See Appendices A, B and C, page 4).

Among consumer Heroes in the House (district number in parenthesis) are Abner J. Mikva (IL-10), Edward Mezvinsky (IO-1), Gladys Noon Spellman (MD-5), Robert F. Drinan (MA-4), M. Robert Carr (MI-6), Thomas J. Downey (NY-2), Matthew F. McHugh (NY-27), Charles J. Carney (OH-19), Robert W. Edgar (PA-7) and Robert J. Cornell (WI-8).

House Zeroes for 1976 included Sam Steiger (AZ-3), Steven D. Symms (ID-1), George Hansen (ID-2), Garner E. Shriver (KS-4), John Y. McCollister (NB-2), Samuel L. Devine (OH-12), John M. Ashbrook (OH-17) and Robert W. Daniel, Jr. (VA-4).

In announcing this year's voting record, CFA's executive director, Carol Tucker Foreman, noted, "We publish our list of Heroes and Zeroes to emphasize to the American consumers who among their elected representatives are voting in their best interests. Despite tremendous pressures from a wide variety of anti-consumer forces, including the Ford administration, and intensive, well-financed industry and trade association lobbying efforts, CFA's Heroes and 'near Heroes' have consistently and courageously voted for the consumer position. Consumer Zeroes have sold out to these same pressures and failed to consider the rights and concerns of American consumers when casting their votes. Their votes have cost consumers. The charges are evident in threats to health and safety, higher prices, less competition and lack of access to government. Those who benefit from

Zero votes are giant Corporations and special interest groups."

"We're very distressed," Ms. Foreman stated, "at the drop in support for consumers among Republican members of Congress. In the past we have always had Republican members who qualified as Heroes. The Ford Administration, however, has constantly pressured Republicans in Congress to support their anti-consumer position on key amendments. The result has been a decline in support for consumers among Republican members."

CFA's voting record covers a variety of issues vital to the welfare of consumers, including antitrust, tax reform, housing, food, health and energy legislation. CFA's stand on all votes is consistent with policy resolutions passed by CFA's membership at its annual meeting in January 1976. In addition, all issues were the subject of CFA testimony, letters to Committee members, letters to members of Congress or general press releases. The percentage rating for each member of Congress is based on the number of right votes out of the total number of votes included in the voting record.

Cont., p. 4

## CFA Endorses Candidates

For the first time in its history Consumer Federation of America has endorsed political candidates in the coming election.

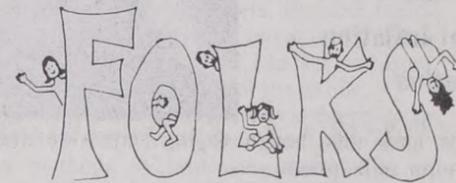
As a result of changes in the Internal Revenue Code enabling CFA to do so, CFA's Candidate Endorsement Committee voted to offer its endorsement to those incumbent members of Congress who had no more than a combined total of one wrong vote on CFA's 1975 and 1976 voting records (this includes incumbents who rated less than 100 percent on either voting record only because of absenteeism).

CFA also sent an in-depth questionnaire regarding key consumer legislation to candidates who are running against incumbents who scored zero percent on the 1975 and 1976 voting records or who scored a combined total of no more than one right vote. In addition, the questionnaire was sent to both candidates in races where there is no incumbent. It requires the candidate to go on record with regard to the most important consumer legislation that has come before the 94th Congress, as well as on anticipated consumer issues of the 95th Congress.

Carol Foreman, executive director of CFA, noted that the endorsements have generated wide interest among Congressional candidates. "Members of Congress are learning that their consumer voting record can be a political tool in their re-election. CFA sincerely hopes that these endorsements will convince voters to elect those candidates who represent their best interests."

List of Endorsements, p. 3

## Focus On Local KonsumerS This Month: Fight Inflation Together



Remember the meat boycott? That's how the well-known F.I.T. grass roots California consumer organization began back in the spring of 1973. A group of irate housewives in Los Angeles were infuriated by the high price of meat. They decided to band together and protest in the only way they could—by refusing to buy. The idea caught on like wildfire across the country and for one week, meat sales decreased nationally by approximately 80 percent. As inflation gripped the country in 1973 and 1974, many consumers changed their eating habits, and meat sales continued to decline. Combatting high meat prices was only the first in a long series of events that sparked the growth of Fight Inflation Together.

The dumping of "surplus" milk into the Harbor City-Carson drains in 1974 again spurred California consumers, led by F.I.T., into action. Petition campaigns, picket lines, and protest marches spread throughout the

spring and summer until the California Senate passed a resolution requiring the State Director of Agriculture to call a public hearing on lowering milk prices. In September 1974, the State Legislative Analyst reported that 420,000 gallons of raw skim milk had been dumped in June and July alone! Four months later the California Agriculture Department lowered minimum retail milk prices by one cent per half gallon; in March, by another two cents. F.I.T.'s leadership had contributed to another consumer victory!

In April 1975, the California Agriculture Department agreed to an experimental suspension of milk-price minimums in the Sacramento area. In April 1976 the Department released a study admitting that retail milk prices had stabilized four cents below the previous state-controlled minimum. F.I.T. and other consumer

Cont., p. 2

## SPEAK OUT!

by Linda Billings

Washington Representative

Sierra Club

## Toxic Substances Control Act— New Law is Hopeful Beginning

One of the primary benefits of technological progress is supposed to be improvement in health and a longer lifespan. But, as we have conquered nature's threats to us, we have found that we can be our own worst enemies. Following close on the heels of disturbing revelations about the lethal and debilitating effects of widely-used chemicals such as asbestos, mercury, PCB's, and vinyl chloride, the nation was shocked to hear scientists with the National Cancer Institute estimate that some 60%-90% of cancer is caused by environmental factors.

While a significant portion of the cancer in these estimates are due to smoking habits, exposure to sunlight and dietary factors, a significant portion is also due to exposure to hazardous chemicals, which either work as causative agents themselves or in conjunction with other factors, such as smoking or genetic susceptibility. It has been estimated that approximately 25% of the U.S. population will develop some form of cancer, and it is further estimated that cancer alone costs the U.S. over \$18 billion annually. And, cancer is only one of many diseases which chemicals can cause.

Unfortunately, neither government, industry, nor private actions have been able to keep pace with the threats. Although the warning signs have been around for a long time, response has been unconscionably slow and inadequate. Government authority to deal with hazardous industrial chemicals (which make up the bulk of pollution problems we now face) is fragmented and incomplete.

After years of legislative wrangling, on October 11, 1976 President Ford signed legislation giving the Federal Government new authority to curb hazardous chemicals.

### Legislative History

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) was first introduced in Congress in 1971, having grown out of a report done by the Presidents Council on Environmental Quality entitled "Toxic Substances". A discrepancy between the recommendations of the report and the provisions in the Administration bill with regard to pre-market screening foreshadowed a major point of disagreement that was to dog the legislation throughout its tortuous route through Congress.

One of the major recommendations of the CEQ report was that the legislation should have a preventative emphasis. Yet, the Administration bill did not contain any preclearance, premarket notification, or premarket screening mechanisms for chemical substances. This glaring oversight was reportedly perpetrated by James T. Lynn, then General Counsel for the Department of Commerce. Apparently, premarket authority was contained in the original draft of the legislation, but was deleted at Lynn's insistence during inter-agency review of the proposed legislation.

In a piece of regulatory legislation as complicated as the TSCA, it is always difficult to isolate the stumbling blocks. Nevertheless, looking back over the history of the bill, I

think it is safe to say that the issue of how much premarket authority to give the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency was the most intractable point of difference.

The final compromise agreed to by the conferees has elements of both House and Senate approaches in it. The Administrator has up to 45 days before the expiration of the premarket review period (90-180 days) to issue an order to require testing and to restrict marketing of a chemical, and a manufacturer has up to 30 days to respond to the proposed order. If there is no objection to the order on the part of the manufacturer, then the order becomes effective. However, if the manufacturer has good reason to object to the order, he is required to submit his objections in writing, and the Administrator would then have to go to court to seek an injunction to restrict marketing. A key test in interpretation and implementation of the law will no doubt occur over the issue of whether or not the Administrator can reject a written objection because it does not contain valid reasons.

### Provisions and Problems

Although I am not entirely comfortable with many of the compromises reached by the conferees, I do believe that on balance it is important to support the bill as a much-needed first step into what is largely uncharted territory. The key provisions in the new regulatory program are:

- Fairly broad criteria that the Administrator can use to require testing of new and existing chemical substances;
- A broad range of authority to regulate the manufacture, processing, distribution in commerce, use, or disposal of a hazardous chemical substance or mixture;
- A requirement that the Agency take prompt action to restrict the use and disposal of PCB's and to ban manufacture within 2½ years;
- Authority for the Administrator to ban through court action hazardous chemicals which present imminent hazards;
- A requirement that the Administrator obtain regular reports from all large manufacturers when it is determined to be necessary to protect against unreasonable risk;
- Authority for the Administrator to engage in research and monitoring activities, to encourage the development of low-cost, fast testing techniques, and to encourage training of laboratory personnel;
- Control over imported chemicals and authority to require testing of exported chemicals and to regulate exports if necessary to protect against unreasonable risk;
- Criminal and civil penalties against persons who violate federal regulations;
- Citizen suits and citizens' petitions may be used to insure prompt and full implementation of the law; and
- Protection for employees from retaliation or environmental blackmail.

All of the above sounds very good, but I think it is important to point out a few weaknesses and pitfalls. First, the bill will be very difficult to administer, because of

cumbersome procedural requirements, which will require additional Agency time and personnel to achieve compliance. Second, it can be anticipated that the Agency will be challenged by manufacturers every step of the way, and kept tied into knots by fleets of corporate lawyers. Third, the financial resources are woefully inadequate: \$10.1 million for 1977, with only 160 people at the very most; \$12.6 million for 1978, and 16.2 for 1979 (compared to \$40 million for the pesticides program, \$125 million authorized for the first year of the Clean Air Act, and over \$200 million for the Food and Drug Administration). Finally, the bill lacks a firm implementation schedule, leaving almost all of the important decisions up to administrative discretion. Certainly it is true of any law that its force depends much upon the will of its administrators, and this will be even more the case with the TSCA.

### Struggle continues

Unfortunately, the Ford Administration's attitude is one of going very slowly at the outset. The Office of Management and Budget has refused to approve more adequate budget authority, and we can anticipate that OMB's tendency towards understaffing will continue. The following quote from the Draft Economic Impact Assessment prepared by EPA in June, 1975 is revealing: "...it is estimated that there will be on the order of three to four actions each year limiting the uses of important chemicals or sharply restricting minor-use chemicals. In addition, there might be ten to twenty minor regulatory actions involving labeling, quality control requirements, or very narrow restrictive uses. Finally, on rare occasions the use of the imminent hazard provision might be appropriate." The same report estimated that testing will be required for some 200 existing chemicals and 150 new chemicals.

I believe that this is a vastly understated estimate of the action needed to curb hazardous chemicals. I say this because there are today more than 2 million different known chemicals, of which some 30,000 chemicals are in actual commercial production; every year, an estimated 25,000 new chemicals are invented, of which it is estimated that some 1,000 will become new commercial chemicals. Only a few thousand chemicals have been adequately tested to reveal other types of hazards. The Department of Health has compiled a list of some 13,000 chemicals identified as toxic and of these some 1,300 are suspected to be capable of causing cancer and about 1,000 are suspected to be capable of causing birth defects.

Implementation of this new law will not be easy. The industry to be regulated is enormous and powerful. Gross sales of the chemical industry have been estimated in excess of \$100 billion per year, and the segment of the industry most likely to be affected by this legislation has gross sales in excess of \$72 billion per year, with profits after taxes exceeding \$5.5 billion. Developing the necessary rules and regulations to implement the new law will be very complicated and will require a certain amount of patience on all our parts. However, the task is going to be enormously strained by the lack of adequate financial resources and personnel. The initial authorization should be ten times what it is now. This low degree of funding will cost the American public dearly in terms of the damage done to the health of our present and future citizens—damage which should be prevented by this new law, but won't be if current attitudes prevail.

## FOLKS

Cont. from p. 1

Ruth Yannatta,  
first director of  
Fight Inflation  
Together



groups have now begun urging state-wide decontrol of minimum milk prices.

F.I.T. also spearheaded the battle to bring egg prices down from \$1 per dozen. A "surplus pool" program, created by the Agriculture Department in California, diverted eggs from the market on the advice of producers sitting on the California Egg Advisory Board. Ruth Yannatta, then director of F.I.T., fought the existence of this program. In January 1975, the egg pool was abolished, and egg prices have decreased in the past year.

Since agriculture is the number one industry in California (marketing \$8.5 billion of agricultural products in 1974), F.I.T. saw the necessity for public members to sit on these self-governing regulatory boards (known as market order advisory boards). F.I.T. led consumers in the effort to have public members appointed to marketing order boards, educating the public through speaking engagements, radio and television interviews and through its newsletter,

"Inflation Watch." F.I.T. also generated a flood of correspondence from citizens to California Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. and legislative leaders. F.I.T. circulated a memo to the Brown administration, carefully explaining the issues and suggesting clear and simple methods for implementing public participation. All of these techniques, combined with dramatic press coverage of the milk and egg market orders, enabled public member appointments to occur.

Appropriately this bicentennial year, California will witness the first full year of opportunity for communication between consumers and producers of agricultural products. The public members on each of these 40 boards can act in the interest of the public, bringing consumer participation back into the marketplace through their input into marketing order decisions. They can also publicly disclose vital information which affects us all. As the first public appointees, each will be setting precedents defining the scope of public representation.

F.I.T. has continued to educate the public about food labeling, commodity advertising and promotions, and similar marketing issues.

On March 20th of this year, F.I.T. coordinated a Food Conference which was attended by several hundred people and covered extensively in the press. Participants included an impressive cross-section of the Los Angeles community. It was followed by a highly successful Food Fair in celebration of Food Day.

Since 1974 F.I.T. has been fortunate to receive funding from the John Hay Whitney Foundation, but since funding ended this summer, F.I.T. no longer operates as a

non-profit, tax-exempt, educational organization and can now enlarge its scope with strictly volunteer workers and funding. In this way F.I.T. can have a direct effect upon consumer legislation and similar advocate projects.

Ruth Yannatta is an example of how a grass roots activist can become a public leader by hard work and determination. A 30-year-old PhD. candidate in English Literature and mother of two small children, Ruth was one of the leaders of the 1973 meat boycott. As Director of F.I.T. in its early years, she led the fight for appointment of consumer representatives to State agricultural boards, and became the first consumer member in California history to be appointed to the State Egg Board. Ruth used her position to raise questions publicly about advertising, quality, and pricing in California's food industry.

In 1974, when a Democratic administration came to power, Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. recognized Ruth's ability and named her Assistant to the Director of the State Department of Consumer Affairs. Ruth now directs the Department's Southern California office and acts as a liaison between consumer groups and the State government.

Elaine Felsher has recently taken over as head of F.I.T. She currently serves as an alternate public member to the State Dry Bean Advisory Board and to the California Director of Agriculture's Special Consumer Advisory Group.

F.I.T. plans to keep a close watch on State and federal consumer legislation and to pursue local consumer issues as they arise.

For further information, contact F.I.T., 1434 Westwood Blvd. Suite 4, Los Angeles, Ca. 90024, 213/474-4518.

## CFA Sues Federal Home Loan Bank Board



Senator Paul Douglas (1892-1976)

### Consumers Lose Friend

On September 24, 1976, Paul H. Douglas, former Democratic Senator from Illinois and dedicated supporter of the consumer movement, died at the age of 84.

"Never accept anything that costs more than a ham dinner," was the constant admonition of Douglas to his Senate staff long before conflict of interest laws were seriously debated.

These words typified the personal integrity of the man who was often regarded as the conscience of the United States Senate. They also serve to remind us of the prophetic nature of Douglas' numerous achievements during his 18-year Senate term. He consistently had the courage and perseverance to work for causes which take a long time to win. His battle for passage of the Truth-in-Lending Bill lasted seven years.

From his earliest days in the Senate, Paul Douglas forced the Senate to come to grips with the great civil rights issues of the day. He led the fight for the 1957 Civil Rights Act, the first passed in 80 years, and sponsored the 1960 Civil Rights Act and later the 1964 Act that integrated public accommodations.

Douglas continually demonstrated his deep concern for the American People through his struggles on behalf of the medicare, federal aid to education, full employment, civil rights, and consumer protection.

In 1969 the AFL-CIO presented its highest honor, the Philip Murray-William Green award, to Senator Douglas for his outstanding contributions to the health and welfare of the American people. Douglas requested that \$1,000 of the award be designated as a contribution to CFA to establish a non profit educational and research foundation. Since 1969 the Paul Douglas Consumer Research Center has focused on a variety of issues including auto repair fraud, prescription drug advertising, and the energy problems of middle and low income consumers. The PDCRC has just been awarded a \$110,000 grant from the U.S. Office of Education's Consumer Grant program.

CFA is thankful to have known Paul Douglas as a friend and proud to continue the work of the Paul Douglas Consumer Research Center in his honor.

On October 6 Consumer Federation of America filed suit in U.S. District Court against the Federal Home Loan Bank Board and the recently created Advisory Committee to its Alternative Mortgage Instruments Research Study.

According to CFA, the Advisory Committee's composition clearly indicates that the Federal Home Loan Bank Board is in violation of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. That Act requires that the membership of any advisory committee be "fairly balanced in terms of points of view represented and...not be inappropriately influenced by any special interest..."

As stated in CFA's complaint, the twenty-five member Advisory Committee as presently constituted includes "twenty-one members...affiliated with the banking industry" or related agencies of the federal government. Two members are academicians, one member is an executive of a building company, and one member is a labor union representative. Not one member of the Advisory Committee is a consumer advocate, or a representative of female, elderly or minority group borrower's interests."

In announcing the suit, CFA's legislative director, Kathleen F. O'Reilly, described the Advisory Committee as "a mockery of fairly balanced representation. Not only is there no member who sits as a representative of women, senior citizens or minority groups, no member is a senior citizen, black, woman or chicano." One of CFA's concerns is that the Advisory Committee will be making recommendations about variable rate mortgages (VRM's).

The VRM, unlike the present fixed rate mortgage, is based on a fluctuating interest rate which rises and falls on the basis of one or more specified indices. It has been conceded in public statements by members of the defendant FHLBB that VRMs would lead to stricter loan standards because borrowers would have to be able to meet higher monthly payments. In effect applicants would have to demonstrate that they have the upward economic mobility to pay not only present monthly mortgage payments but also to absorb the cost of increased rates. As a result, VRM's will have a particularly adverse effect on the elderly, women and minority groups who have traditionally lacked such upward economic mobility.

In its complaint CFA requests the Court to enjoin the defendant from continuing its operation until the Committee is legally constituted—that is, in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. CFA specifically called for the inclusion of representation of the interests of women, elderly and minority group borrowers and the assurance that the Committee is not inappropriately influenced by special interests of the banking industry.

### MDM Production Halted

Following a September 10, 1976 federal court ruling that former Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz had violated the law by permitting the production and use of mechanically deboned meat (MDM) under an interim regulation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has ordered meat processors to halt production of MDM.

Although the USDA's order is a significant victory for the consumer coalition which sued to have the interim regulation rescinded, the order does not fully comply with the guidelines that U.S. District Court Judge William Bryant included in the injunction. Under USDA's newly announced policy meat processors will be able to use up existing stocks of MDM and sell hot dogs and other meat products now on the market containing MDM. The court ruling held, however, that the Secretary's duty is to halt "distribution and sale of such products."

Coalition members involved in the suit (CNI v. Butz) included the Community Nutrition Institute, Consumer Federation of America, Consumer Affairs Committee of the Americans for Democratic Action, Consumers Union, National Consumers Congress, Public Citizen, and the Virginia Citizens' Consumer Council. They were joined by the Maryland Attorney General and Rep. Margaret Heckler (R-MA), a member of the House Agriculture Committee.

### HEW awards consumer grant— — Lindquist to direct —

The U.S. Office of Education's Consumer Education grant program has announced the award of a \$110,538 grant to CFA through its Paul Douglas Consumer Research Center, CFA's educational and research foundation. The purpose of the one-year grant is to establish a comprehensive program for the education and training of community based consumer leaders and organizations. The approach will be three-fold.

CFA's existing State and Local Organizing Project will expand production and distribution of its monthly newsletter. The present 400 subscriber newsletter will expand to 5,000. It will go to all known state and local consumer groups and consumer protection agencies, the Office of Education, Attorney General and Governor's offices in each state; state legislative councils dealing with consumer affairs; the national offices of approximately 50 major labor unions; and the regional offices of nonprofit organizations concerned with consumer issues, such as the American Association of Retired Persons.



Sherry Lindquist

The format of the newsletter will be revised to include highlights of state and local consumer organizations; a special fundraising section for state and local consumer groups; an update on proposed FTC, CPSC, FDA and FCC regulations, as well as a schedule of regional hearings, due date for comments, a synopsis of the issue, and a list of organizations and technical experts working on the issue; a summary of pending major consumer legislation; and a general overview of the food, energy and health oriented activities of nonprofit organizations.

In addition to the newsletter, the project will produce special in-depth publications dealing with particular consumer issues for use by community leaders. Possible topics include a description of the role and impact of federal regulatory proceedings and how citizens can act to insure that federal regulations reflect the needs of the public.

Finally, the project will conduct a two-day conference to instruct approximately 200 state and local consumer representatives in methods of improving knowledge of consumer problems. The conference will also serve as a distribution center for the dissemination of government and privately published consumer education materials to the local level.

While the focus of the new program is consumer education materials, CFA's State and Local Organizing Project, funded by Consumers Union, will continue to provide technical assistance to state and local consumer organizations.

The project's full-time director is Sherry Lindquist who has served as CFA's Assistant Director of Administration since October 1974. In addition, the project will have a research assistant/writer and a secretary. In order to accommodate the new program, the Paul Douglas Consumer Research Center will have its own office space for the first time.

## —CFA's Congressional Endorsements—

#### INCUMBENTS

##### Senate

Maine: Muskie  
Massachusetts: Kennedy

##### House of Representatives

(District number in parenthesis)

Arizona: Udall (2)  
California: Moss (3)  
Burton, J. (5)  
Burton, P. (6)  
Miller (7)  
Dellums (8)  
Stark (9)  
Edwards (10)  
Corman (21)  
Waxman (24)  
Roybal (25)  
Burke (28)  
Hawkins (29)  
Connecticut: Moffett (6)  
Georgia: Young (5)  
Illinois: Metcalf (1)  
Murphy (2)  
Collins (7)  
Rostenkowski (8)  
Yates (9)  
Mikva (10)  
Annunzio (11)  
Brademas (3)  
Indiana: Mezvinsky (1)  
Iowa: Harkin (5)  
Maryland: Spellman (5)  
Mitchell (7)  
Early (3)

#### Massachusetts:

Drinan (4)  
Tsongas (5)

#### Michigan:

Harrington (6)  
Moakley (9)  
Burke (11)  
Studds (12)  
Carr (6)  
Diggs (13)  
Ford (15)  
Brodhead (17)  
Blanchard (18)

#### Minnesota:

Fraser (5)  
Nolan (6)  
Oberstar (8)  
Florio (1)  
Howard (3)  
Thompson (4)  
Maquire (7)  
Roe (8)  
Rodino (10)  
Minish (11)  
Meyner (13)

#### New York:

Downey (2)  
Ambro (3)  
Addabbo (7)  
Rosenthal (8)  
Scheuer (11)  
Chisholm (12)  
Solarz (13)  
Richmond (14)  
Holtzman (16)  
Koch (18)  
Rangel (19)  
Badillo (21)  
Bingham (22)

Ottinger (24)  
McHugh (27)  
Nowak (37)

#### Ohio:

Seiberling (14)  
Carney (19)  
Stokes (21)  
Vanik (22)  
Weaver (4)

#### Oregon:

#### Pennsylvania:

Rhode Island: St. Germain (1)

#### Tennessee:

#### Texas:

#### Virginia:

#### West Virginia:

#### Wisconsin:

Allen (5)  
Eckhardt (8)  
Harris (8)  
Hechler (4)  
Baldus (3)  
Zablocki (4)  
Reuss (5)  
Obey (7)  
Cornell (8)

#### HOUSE INCUMBENTS RUNNING FOR THE SENATE

#### Maryland:

#### Michigan:

Sarbanes  
Riegle

#### NON-INCUMBENTS RUNNING FOR THE HOUSE

(District number in parenthesis)

#### California:

#### Maryland:

#### Michigan:

#### Pennsylvania:

Panetta (16)  
Hall (40)  
Fornos (4)  
Bonior (12)  
Kostmayer (8)

## Consumer Heroes and Zeroes (cont. from page 1)

The votes chosen for consideration by CFA are often not the final vote but a vote of key importance on the issue, such as a motion to recommit a bill to committee, thereby killing it. In each case the vote considered is a hard test of an elected representative's true concern for consumers.

On the whole, both the House and Senate showed a significant decrease in its level of support for consumers during 1976. Of CFA's 11 key issues in the House this year, only 6 resulted in House passage. The record in the Senate was somewhat better than in the House. Of 14 key issues considered by CFA, 9 were successfully passed.

CFA's latest Heroes and Zeroes list also demonstrates this

loss of support for consumers. Compared to its 1975 list, the number of members who never voted for the consumer increased from 14 to 15 in the Senate and from 43 to 62 in the House. While the Senate had 7 Heroes in 1975, it now has only one. The number of consumer Heroes in the House dropped dramatically from 57 in 1975 to 38 at present.

Although it is evident that members of Congress have yielded to increased anti-consumer pressures, several significant victories were scored during the 94th Congress. They included passage of legislation to create an agency for consumer representation, strong antitrust legislation, and legislation which opened up the day-to-day functioning of government to increased citizen appraisal.

In summarizing, Ms. Foreman stated, "During the next session of Congress our elected representatives will again be asked to vote on such crucial consumer issues as increased representation for consumers, product safety and expanded business competition. CFA, therefore, strongly urges voters to carefully examine this voting record and determine which members of Congress have chosen to stand with consumers. Americans should cast their votes keeping in mind those members of Congress who will truly represent their best interest."

The 1976 voting record is available for \$1.00 from Consumer Federation of America, 1012 14th Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

### APPENDIX A CFA's 1976 HEROES

Senate--Perfect Record--100%  
New Hampshire: Durkin

House of Representatives--  
Perfect Record--100%  
(District number in parenthesis)

California:	Burton, Phillip (6)
	Edwards (10)
Connecticut:	Dodd (2)
	Moffett (6)
Illinois:	Yates (9)
	Mikva (10)
	Price (23)
	Simon (24)
Indiana:	Brademas (3)
Iowa:	Mezvinsky (1)
Maryland:	Spellman (5)
	Mitchell (7)
Massachusetts:	Drinan (4)
	Moakley (9)
	Burke (11)
	Studds (12)
Michigan:	Carr (6)
Minnesota:	Fraser (5)
	Nolan (6)
	Oberstar (8)
New Jersey:	Howard (3)
	Minish (11)
New York:	Downey (2)
	Addabbo (7)
	Scheuer (11)
	Solarz (13)
	Holtzman (16)
	Koch (18)
	Rangel (19)
	McHugh (27)
	Nowak (37)
Ohio:	Carney (19)
	Stokes (21)
Pennsylvania:	Edgar (7)
Tennessee:	Allen (5)
Wisconsin:	Zablocki (4)
	Reuss (5)
	Cornell (8)

### APPENDIX B CFA's 1976 ZEROES

Senate--never voted for the  
consumer--0%

Arizona:	Fannin
	Goldwater
Idaho:	McClure
Mississippi:	Eastland
Nebraska:	Curtis
	Hruska
Nevada:	Laxalt
New York:	Buckley
North Carolina:	Helms
Oklahoma:	Bartlett
South Carolina:	Thurmond
Texas:	Tower
Utah:	Garn
Virginia:	Scott
Wyoming:	Hansen

House of Representatives--  
never voted for the consumer--0%  
(District number in parenthesis)

Alaska:	Young
Arizona:	Steiger (3)
Arkansas:	Hammerschmidt (3)
California:	Ketchum (18)
	Rousselot (26)
	Bell (27)
	Hinshaw (40)
	Wilson, R. (41)
	Burgener (43)
Colorado:	Armstrong (5)
Florida:	Chappell (4)
	Frey (9)
Georgia:	Stuckey (8)
	Landrum (9)
Idaho:	Symms (1)
	Hansen (2)
Illinois:	Michel (18)
	Madigan (21)
Indiana:	Myers (7)
Kansas:	Sibelius (1)
	Winn (3)
	Shriver (4)
	Skubitz (5)
Louisiana:	Treen (3)
	Waggoner (4)
	Moore (6)
	Breaux (7)

Maryland:	Bauman (1)
	Holt (4)
Michigan:	Esch (2)
Minnesota:	Hagedorn (2)
Mississippi:	Montgomery (3)
Missouri:	Taylor (7)
Nebraska:	Thone (1)
	McCollister (2)
	Smith (3)
New Mexico:	Lujan (1)
	Runnels (2)
North Carolina:	Broyhill (10)
Ohio:	Brown (7)
	Miller (10)
	Devine (12)
	Ashbrook (17)
Oklahoma:	Jarman (5)
Pennsylvania:	Shuster (5)
	Eshleman (16)
	Schneebeli (17)
South Carolina:	Spence (2)

Tennessee:	Quillen (1)
	Beard (6)
Texas:	Collins (3)
	Archer (7)
	Burleson (17)
	Milford (24)
Virginia:	Downing (1)
	Whitehurst (2)
	Satterfield (3)
	Daniel (4)
	Daniel, W.C. (Dan) (5)
	Butler (6)
	Robinson (7)
	Wampler (9)
Wisconsin:	Kasten (9)

### APPENDIX C CFA's 1976 ABSENT ADVOCATES

Senate--never voted against the consumer  
but were absent 1 or more times (Followed  
by number of absences out of 14 votes)

California:	Tunney	9
Idaho:	Church	8
Maine:	Muskie	2
Massachusetts:	Kennedy	1
New Hampshire:	McIntyre	3
South Dakota:	Abourezk	1
Wisconsin:	Nelson	1

House of Representatives--never voted  
against the consumer but were absent  
1 or more times (District number in  
parenthesis, followed by number of  
absences out of eleven votes)

Arizona:	Udall (2)	3
California:	Burton, John (5)	2
	Dellums (8)	1
	Stark (9)	3
	Corman (21)	1
	Waxman (24)	2
	Burke (28)	1
	Hawkins (29)	1
Georgia:	Young (5)	3
Hawaii:	Matsunaga (1)	1
	Mink (2)	1
Illinois:	Metcalfe (1)	3
	Murphy (2)	1
	Fary (5)	2
	Collins (7)	3
	Rostenkowski (8)	4
Indiana:	Hayes (8)	4
Maryland:	Sarbanes (3)	2
Michigan:	Conyers (1)	5
	VanderVeen (5)	1
	Riegle (7)	7
	O'Hara (12)	7
	Ford (15)	1
	Dingell (16)	1
	Brodhead (17)	1
	Blanchard (18)	1
Minnesota:	Karth (4)	8
Missouri:	Sullivan (3)	6
	Bolling (5)	3
New Jersey:	Thompson (4)	2
	Maguire (7)	1
	Roe (8)	1
	Helstoski (9)	5
	Rodino (10)	1
	Meyner (13)	1
	Daniels (14)	2
New York:	Rosenthal (8)	2
	Chisholm (12)	1
	Richmond (14)	2
	Abzug (20)	3
	Badillo (21)	1
	Ottinger (24)	1
Ohio:	Seiberling (14)	1
	Stanton, J.V. (20)	4
	Vanik (22)	3
Pennsylvania:	Green (3)	4
	Eilberg (4)	1
Tennessee:	Ford (8)	2
Texas:	Eckhardt (8)	2



consumer federation of america  
1012 14th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20005

**PRESIDENT**  
Lee Richardson  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Carol Tucker Foreman  
**EDITOR**  
Kathleen Sheekey

**LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR**  
Kathleen O'Reilly  
**STATE AND LOCAL PROJECT**  
Sally Taylor  
**ENERGY POLICY TASK FORCE**  
Ellen Berman

CFA News is published each month except  
August by the Consumer Federation of America,  
1012 14th St. NW, Washington DC, 20005  
Annual Subscription rate: \$20.00/yr.

© 1976 by Consumer Federation of America  
CFA should be credited for material.  
All Rights Reserved.

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Washington, D.C.  
Permit No. 44772