

# House Approves Bills Supported By Lundine

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Two major economic stimulus bills, both strongly supported by Rep. Stanley N. Lundine, have won overwhelming approval in the House of Representatives: the Youth Employment and Innovative Demonstration Act, based on legislation originally sponsored by Lundine, and the Tax Reduction and Simplification Act.

"These two pieces of legislation," Lundine said, "represent an effective approach to improving our national economic situation. The President's stimulus program is taking shape, and Congress is acting favorably on positive plans to address structural unemployment and depressed purchasing power."

The Tax Reduction Act will provide \$2.8 billion in tax cuts this year, \$17.7 billion in fiscal year 1978 and \$13.7 billion the following year. That money will go back into the individual's budget with deduction changes for some 47 million taxpayers' 1977 federal taxes.

At the same time, it will allow up to \$100,000 in tax credits for employers to use in placing new workers on jobs. It will also streamline tax forms for an estimated 96 per cent of taxpayers.

The Youth Employment Act addresses itself to the largest single out-of-work force in America today, those between 16 and 24. They represent 46 per cent of the unemployed in this country. While the average unemployment rate for the first quarter of the year was 7.4 per cent, unemployment in this category was 14.3 per cent.

"We clearly need a program to handle that waste of individual talent," Lundine said.

This act creates new opportunities for full-time summer and part-time school year jobs for youths, giving them a head start toward making ties to employers and gaining experience in the work world without forcing them to drop out of school. "Helping our young people finish their education," Lundine said, "is a strong investment in our future — one which can make a significant difference in our efforts to stimulate employment and the economy."

Lundine also said that he voted against the Public Works Jobs Bill because he felt a decided bias existed in the program favoring metropolitan areas. But he also said the bill is part of a sound economic strategy. "It will improve the national situation by stimulating construction, which is still one of the weakest sectors of the economy."