

# Nutrition Community Nutrition Institute Week

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### Emergency Jobs Bill With New WIC Funding Progresses in Congress

The House Appropriations Committee late last week approved a \$4.6 billion emergency jobs bill that includes a hefty chunk of new money for WIC.

The full House is expected to vote on the committee's bill today. Although it chiefly funds jobs, the anti-recession package contains hundreds of millions of dollars for a variety of food, health and social service programs. Among the additions are:

- \$100 million in new WIC money, which would raise this year's funding to \$1.16 billion;
- \$75 million for the purchase and distribution of "perishable" surplus agricultural commodities such as fruits, vegetables and meats. The commodities would be available to congregate emergency feeding sites in areas of high unemployment, and the new aid could not be charged against existing commodity programs;
- \$50 million for emergency food and shelter programs to be distributed via private voluntary organizations. Spending would be passed through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and governed by a national board of seven organizations, including the United Way and the Salvation Army;
- \$150 million in additional funds for the social services block grant, with \$50 million of the total earmarked for child day care services;
- \$30 million in new Head Start money;
- \$25 million for the Labor Department's Title V senior employment program;

- \$30 million for community and migrant health centers and services, including \$10 million for home health care services;

- \$10 million in additional maternal and child health services;

- \$25 million in supplemental funding for the community services block grant.

With the exception of WIC, most of the food money would require a 25 percent non-federal match, either cash or in-kind.

Final House passage of the catch-all measure, being considered as a supplemental fiscal 1983 appropriations bill, is likely to come easily, although floor amendments this week could alter the committee's

### Winterfeldt Resigns

Esther Winterfeldt, the first and only director of USDA's beleaguered Human Nutrition Information Service, resigned this week to return to Oklahoma State University, where she had been serving as head of the food and nutrition department.

During Winterfeldt's year as HNIS director, the fledgling agency suffered budget and personnel cutbacks and was criticized by consumer groups for downgrading nutrition research and education (see CNI 2/24/83). The Reagan Administration has proposed a 20 percent cut in the HNIS budget for fiscal 1984 (see CNI 2/3/83).

When her resignation was announced in late February, Winterfeldt's duties included supervising USDA's reviews of the Dietary Guidelines and the National Academy of Sciences' diet and cancer report. Isabel D. Wolf, USDA consumer adviser, has been named acting director of the agency.