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E. De la Garza
WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The House of Representatives recessed near midnight Wednesday after having passed more major legislation in the first 10 weeks in this Congress than any time in the last 30 years, according to Rep. Kika de la Garza noting that three key economic recovery measures have been passed including the Tax Reduction Act, the Emergency Employment Appropriation and the Emergency Middle-Income Housing Act.

Rep. de la Garza emphasized that as of 26 March the House had passed more than 30 substantive pieces of legislation -- 15 of which are major bills, including the above.

At the present time, according to the South Texan, House Committees are either working on or have completed action on some 66 other important measures. These include:

- 13 bills which have been reported and will be acted on by the House following the Easter recess;
- 21 bills on which hearings have been completed and which are now in the mark up stage;
- 32 bills which are in the committee hearing stage of consideration.

Additionally, de la Garza pointed out, the Ways and Means Committee and the Commerce Subcommittee on Energy and Power are now marking up comprehensive energy legislation expected to reach the House floor before the end of April.

Rep. de la Garza emphasized in compiling this legislative record the House has worked more days, been in session more hours, and taken more record votes on legislation than any Congress in the past 30 years. He said that so far in 1975, the House has been in session 45 days for a total of 125 hours and 71 record votes were taken. The South Texan emphasized that this does not include working in committees and subcommittees where legislation is initially developed.

Rep. de la Garza said that House action closest to this record in terms of days was in 1965 -- in hours in session at this point was in 1949 -- and in record votes in 1973 when only 27 were taken.

The South Texan's Subcommittee on Department Operation, Oversight and Investigations of the Committee on Agriculture has had several days of hearings and virtually every day since this Congress opened, de la Garza said, he has attended up to three subcommittee or full committee meetings daily.

Rep. de la Garza has been assigned by the House Majority Leader, Tip O'Neill of Massachusetts, to accompany him on a congressional visit to the Middle East during the recess.

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