

Reagan veto over-ridden by Congress

A \$14.2 billion supplemental appropriations bill which contains funds for several programs which should benefit rural and other Alaskans was saved in the U.S. Senate late last Friday from a Reagan veto despite votes from Senators Ted Stevens and Frank Murkowski.

With 90 senators voting, 60 votes were needed to override the presidential veto. Stevens

had originally vowed to fight the veto, and had voted against it. Then, with the vote 62-28 to override the veto, Stevens switched his vote to the side of the president.

Murkowski quickly did likewise, making the vote 60-30. Had just one more Senator switched sides, the president's veto would have stood.

"The Senator had hoped the president would not veto the

bill," said Pam Rubenstein, press aide to Senator Stevens. Rubenstein said that Stevens wanted to vote against the veto, but he told Reagan that if the vote was close and his help was needed, he would support Reagan.

Although much of the money earmarked for Alaska in the bill was requested by Senator Stevens, Rubenstein said Stevens. (Continued on Page Nine)

Reagan veto fails

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vens felt it was important to support Reagan. "Alaska has a lot to gain by meeting the president's goals of bringing inflation down and lowering interest rates," said Rubenstein. Whenever spending limits are gone over, then these goals are jeopardized.

"Senator Stevens has been a strong supporter of the president. He believes the president's overall policies have been good for the state."

Among funds which will be coming to Alaska now that Reagan's veto was killed will be \$11.1 million to upgrade and repair 16 Bureau of Indian Affairs schools throughout the state which the Department of the Interior plans to turn over to Alaska for operation.

An additional \$200,000 will be used for research on the lifestyle of the bowhead whale and will figure into future decisions on the numbers allowed for future subsistence whale harvests.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will receive \$50,000 to enable it to implement a cooperative management agreement with the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission on the bowhead hunt. Chugach Natives, Inc., will receive \$3 million of a \$12 million land claims settlement from the bill.

A C-130 transport aircraft

will replace the one lost last July by the Coast Guard at Kodiak for \$16 million. An additional \$16.2 million will be funneled to the Alaska Naval Petroleum Reserve to be used by the Department of the Interior to search for gas fields.

One million dollars will go into the Foreign Fishing Observation Fund which is used to put observers on foreign fishing boats to insure they do not exceed legal catch limits and another \$2 million will help fund the Fishermen's Protection Act.