

# HE GETS THINGS DONE !

## YOUR Congressman **Billie S. FARNUM**



In the Cabinet Room of the White House, Congressman Farnum makes a point for an attentive President Johnson.



# **"Congress has never seen a Congressman like freshman Billie S. FARNUM"**



**T**hose are the words used by Washington correspondent Esther Van Wagoner Tufty in describing the impact that Billie S. Farnum, first-term Congressman from Michigan's new 19th District, has made on the nation's capitol.

Writing in the Pontiac Press, Mrs. Tufty told how Billie S. Farnum, one of the "fresh new faces" in the 89th Congress, surprised official Washington with his energy and enthusiasm — his understanding and ability.

Unlike many candidates for Congress, Billie S. Farnum's rich background uniquely prepared him to serve the people of the 19th District. He had been elected by Michigan's voters as State Auditor General. He had worked for U.S. Senator Blair Moody.

In a rare tribute to a new Congressman, Billie S. Farnum was named to the powerful Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives — the committee that must pass on every spending bill that goes through the Congress.

Billie S. Farnum's concern for the problems of people brought him a seat on a key appropriations subcommittee dealing with labor, health, education, welfare and related agencies. That subcommittee directs the spending of over more than 50 BILLION dollars a year.

The committee and subcommittee assignments mean hard work and heavy responsibility. Billie S. Farnum is used to that. The Pontiac Press story tells about Congressman Farnum:

"Never before has a member operated in quite the same way to get the facts."

"Farnum personally goes to the source. The Michigan congressman reads the federal budget, as thick as the New York City telephone book, like a novel. Often unannounced, he goes over to the Health, Education and Welfare Department offices to find out for himself what's involved in the requested appropriations."

The newspaper writer also observed: "He's fond of drawing a distinction between 'false economy and the real kind,' stressing that 'true economy results when responsible people provide good management practices.'"

Congressman Farnum has made the most of the opportunity to serve the people of the 19th District. His committee memberships, his background, his understanding and his capacity for hard work have made Billie S. Farnum one of the most EFFECTIVE members of Congress. He gets things done.

Congressman Farnum works for legislation to help the people of the 19th District. He gave his support to Medicare, as he promised he would. He assisted in passing the Older Americans Act.

Education is a particular concern of Congressman Farnum.

"I believe America's greatest asset is its youth," he has said. He backed up those words by helping to pass the historic Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Higher Education Assistance Act, the Library Assistance Act. He also has been active in improving mental health legislation.

Congressman Billie S. Farnum knows his way around Washington. He is your Congressman, and he never forgets it. He gets things done.



For his efforts on behalf of Senior Citizens,  
a Medicare award



Billie S. Farnum brings a friend to Oakland University



With Congresswoman Martha Griffith and House Speaker McCormack, Congressman Farnum discusses the needs of the 19th District





As Michigan's Auditor General, Billie S. Farnum worked closely with President John F. Kennedy



The Farnum family: sons, daughters-in-law, grandchildren

# **Billie S. FARNUM:** **Background for** **action**

**Experience, energy,  
understanding . . .**

Billie S. Farnum took these qualities with him to Washington. They helped give him the fast headstart that has made him a stand-out in the Congress.

The people of the new 19th District knew when they elected Billie S. Farnum in 1964 that they had chosen a tested man of action. Michigan's voters had elected Billie S. Farnum as the state's Auditor General in 1962. His performance in that post earned him the title of "watchdog of Michigan's tax dollar." His crackdown on waste throughout State government earned the praise of Republicans and Democrats alike.

So it comes as no surprise that Billie S. Farnum is already known as the Congressman who gets things done.

Let's look at Congressman Billie S. Farnum's background to see the development of a man of action.

Born in Saginaw, Billie S. Farnum grew up on a farm in Watrous-ville, Michigan. He was graduated from high school in Vassar in the midst of the Depression and joined FDR's Civilian Conservation Corps, the Job Corps of the 1930's. He attended advanced study classes and later, as a Pontiac Motors worker, became active in the labor movement.

His career in state government began in 1951, when Governor Williams appointed him to the Michigan State Fair Commission. A year later he joined the staff of U.S. Senator Blair Moody. He later served with Secretary of State James Hare, becoming Assistant Secretary of State in 1955 and Deputy Secretary of State in 1957.

In 1961 Governor Swainson appointed Billie S. Farnum Auditor General of the State of Michigan. His outstanding record as auditor resulted in the people of the State electing him to the post in 1962.



To Billie S. Farnum, government means service to people

In 1964 the people of Michigan's new 19th District elected Billie S. Farnum to the U.S. Congress.

Billie S. Farnum has a busy life as a Congressman. A typical day in Washington may begin with a 7:30 a.m. legislative conference and end with a late evening briefing on an international problem.

He spends as much time as he can back home in the 19th District, seeing and talking with the people. The Congressman personally purchased a mobile office to make it more convenient for the people to visit with their U.S. Representative.

Outside government Billie S. Farnum also has a busy life. He and his wife Maxine live in Waterford Township. They have three sons and five grandchildren. Congressman Farnum is active in the Boy Scouts, United Fund, PTA, Congregational Church, Elks, Eagles, Masons and other civic and educational organizations.

Billie S. Farnum's background is a background for action.



# Congressman Farnum: "The one who gets things done"

**Billie S. Farnum—the ACTION Congressman—never forgets that he is in Congress to serve the people of the 19th District.**

The Honorable Billie S. Farnum  
Congressman's Office  
125 West Monroe Street  
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Billie:

I would like to congratulate  
the Federal

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

"I am certain that I may speak for all my associates when I say that we have been deeply impressed by your achievements in Washington. You have done a fine job for the University and for the community of which it is a part." **D. B. Varner, Chancellor, Oakland University**

"My husband has received your kind letter of July 13, 1966, which included the self-explanatory letter from the Social Security Administration regarding his entitlement to Social Security benefits and Medicare. I want to sincerely thank you for your interest, your promptness and your effort in trying to raise his Social Security benefits." **Mrs. E. M., Pontiac**

"Your cooperation, assistance and hard work has been instrumental in achieving federal assistance for this project (Keego Harbor Water System). On behalf of the City Council the residents of Keego Harbor, I want to extend our sincere appreciation for your efforts." **William Graves, Mayor of Keego Harbor**

"I would like to thank you for your assistance while I was in the Naval Hospital at Philadelphia. I don't know what I would have done without your help." **Mr. H. M., Pontiac**

"I want to send along to you my sincere thanks for your interest in my matter, and you can be assured that I will do my best to convey this satisfaction with your efforts to my acquaintances in our home area in hopes that you may be able to continue such excellence for many years to come." **A 19th District sailor serving aboard the USS Essex**

"I am very pleased and thankful that with your busy schedule you took time out to help me and as fast as you have. It is such a wonderful feeling to have a man such as yourself to represent us." **Mrs. D. W., Redford**



Re-elect  
Your Congressman

## Billie S. Farnum

Democrat, 19th District

**"Billie Farnum is a man whose integrity is legend"**

That was the appraisal of Billie S. Farnum by the Detroit Free Press. Other newspaper reports also followed the career of the 19th District's man in Washington.

• • • May 22, 1965, The Pontiac Press:

"This general area can rejoice over the promising early start of our newest Congressman in Washington, Billie Farnum. His baptismal weeks have been fruitful . . . he has created a very favorable image. He already graces the Appropriations Committee, which is a major achievement for a yearling. Washington newspapermen say that the Michigander has handled himself very creditably and that this district can be proud of his first months of quiet but effective service."

• • • September 21, 1965, The Pontiac Press:

"Congress has never seen a Congressman like freshman Billie S. Farnum. He is proud of his Lansing-acquired accolade as 'the watchdog of the taxpayer's dollars' but he's not against spending if in the public interest. Farnum personally goes to the source. The Michigan Congressman reads the federal budget, as thick as the New York City telephone book, like a novel."

• • • April 6, 1966, Observer Newspapers:

"After four days in Washington this is my opinion of our Congressman from the 19th District, Billie S. Farnum: 'You ain't seen nuthin' yet.' Although this representative has only been in Washington a year and a half, judging by contribution and recognition he is far more seasoned. From the President's office down, they are aware of Billie S. Farnum."

• • • September 12, 1966, The Pontiac Press:

"Some of these fledglings in Congress have stepped out on their own in Washington and proved their worth. Our own Billie Farnum is an excellent example. He has served his district in convincing and telling fashion by bringing us sorely needed Federal aid. His personal worth to this district is a matter of record."

• • • October 8, 1966 Detroit Free Press

"Farnum is a detail man and one of the hardest working members of the exclusive and powerful House Appropriations Committee. He already has been able to bring home some federal bacon, and given seniority on his committee he'll be able to give his district a whole hog."