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.

Advertising Supplement to the Lake Orion Review, Oct. 27, 1966
"Congress has never seen a Congressman like freshman Billie S. Farnum"

There are the words used by Washington correspondent Esther Van Wagoner Tuffy in describing the impact that Billie S. Farnum, first-term Congressman from Michigan's new 19th District, has made on the nation's capital.

Writing in the Pantagraph Press, Mrs. Tuffy told how Billie S. Farnum, one of the "fresh new forces" 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 an 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 Pantagraph 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.
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 head start 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 dollars." 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 Watn恢ville, Michigan. He was graduated from high school in Ypsilanti 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 Swanson 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.

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

“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

“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, 1966, The Pontiac Press:

“This general area can rejoice over the promising early start of our newest Congressman in Washington, Rep. Billie Farnum. His legislative work has been fruitful, he has created a very favorable image. He already grace the Appropriations Committee, which is a major achievement for a young man. Washington newspapermen say that the Michigan congressman has held himself very creditably and that this district can be proud of his first months of quiet but effective service.”

- September 21, 1966, The Pontiac Press:

“Congress has never seen a Congressman like this man Billie S. Farnum. He is proud of his Lansing-drafted milestone in the watching of the taxpayer’s dollars, but he is not against spending it 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 schoolbook.”

- April 8, 1966, Observer Newspapers:

“After four days in Washington this is my opinion of our Congressman from the 19th District, Billie S. Farnum. You don’t even notice him. Although this representative has only been in Washington a year and a half, judging by contributions and recognition he is far more successful. From the President’s desk on down they are proud of Billie S. Farnum.”

- September 12, 1966, The Pontiac Press:

“Some of these mid-levels of Congress have stepped out of their shoes in Washington and proud they are of him. Dr. Leland Fordon sets a fine example. He has served his district in convincing and telling fashion by bringing in 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 alread 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.”

Re-elect
Your Congressman
Billie S. Farnum
Democrat, 19th District