



# The Phyllis Schlafly Report



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BOX 618, ALTON, ILLINOIS 62002

JANUARY, 1976

*The Ripoff of the Taxpayers Known As:*

## The Commission On International Women's Year or, Bella Abzug's Boondoggle

The little clique of women's libbers who are determined to erase all differences of treatment between the sexes, in order to force us to conform to a "gender-free" society, are not willing to compete fairly in the marketplace of ideas. The record proves that, in any fair contest, their radical notions cannot attract any significant percentage of persons.

So, they have worked tirelessly to acquire public monies in order to cram their programs down our throats whether we like them or not. For many years, they have been doing this to the tune of tens of thousands of taxpayers' dollars through the various federal and state "Commissions on the Status of Women."

Despite all the public money the women's libbers have spent to promote the Equal Rights Amendment and other lib objectives, ERA was defeated in 19 out of 20 states during 1975. So, the libbers have retaliated with a new tax-financed gimmick to promote their special interests. Its chief characteristic is the huge dimension of its monetary waste.

Step Number One was to persuade President Ford to issue Executive Order No. 11832 on January 9, 1975 setting up a National Commission on International Women's Year, and then to appoint all pro-ERA members. This was fairly easy since the women's libbers have a lobbyist right in the White House itself who boasts in the press about how she gets her way by means of "pillow talk."

Betty Ford's radical views favoring abortion (the Supreme Court ruling was "a great, great decision"), tolerating fornication (if 18-year-old Susan should have an affair, Betty "wouldn't be surprised"), and accepting drugs (if Betty were young now, she'd try pot; see *Newsweek*, Dec. 29, 1975), have made her the darling of the women's lib movement, which has used her to lobby for ERA and other lib objectives, and the heroine of the liberal press.

The members of the Commission on International Women's Year appointed by President Ford include Alan Alda (television actor who has reaped reams of free publicity rapping for ERA), Pat Carbine of *MS. Magazine*, Martha Griffiths (the principal ERA sponsor in Congress), NBC's Barbara Walters, Anne Armstrong

(who used her position in the Nixon White House to make phone calls all over the country for ERA), Barbara Bergmann (college professor who said, "We're not here to glorify homemakers. We're here to try to change a way of life . . ."), Congresswoman Bella Abzug, and Senator Birch Bayh (who is still so unstrung by a debate with Phyllis Schlafly in 1973 that he admitted in 1975 that he "wanted to commit mayhem, live and in full color"). The chairman is Jill Ruckelshaus, a pro-abortionist and pro-ERAer known as the "Gloria Steinem of the Republican Party."

In April 1975, the IWY Commission held its first meeting and officially resolved to make ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment its first priority. The Commission pledged "to do all in our capacity" to see that ERA is passed "at the earliest possible moment." This was followed by appearances of the chairman on all three television networks, pushing for ERA.

### Lining Up Money and Staff

Under the White House patronage of President and Mrs. Ford, the IWY Commission opened an office in the State Department and hired a staff of 13, headed by Mrs. Catherine East, a veteran from the Council on the Status of Women in the Labor Department, where for years she has been using federal funds and the franking privilege to promote ERA.

With the approval of the President, the IWY Commission gathered in plenty of current operating cash in grants from other federal agencies: \$50,000 from the State Department, \$125,000 from HEW, \$35,000 from the Transportation Department, \$20,000 from the Interior Department, \$10,000 from the Justice Department, the services of a \$35,000 executive each from the Defense Department and the Labor Department, and the services of two executives from USIA.

After the stunning defeats of ERA in the New York and New Jersey referendums on November 4, 1975, the IWY Commission persuaded President Ford to issue Executive Order No. 11889 on November 25, extending the "year" of International Women's Year to June 30, 1976. International Women's Year was designated by the United Nations as the calendar year 1975, but

this new Presidential directive enables the federal pro-ERA lobby to function through the state legislative battles on ERA in 1976.

Having some \$350,000 to spend for their pet projects, however, did not satisfy the avaricious urge to propagandize us for women's lib with our own tax money. So, the IWY Commission spent a good deal of time and energy seeking a larger federal grant. The chief vehicle to accomplish this was the Bella Abzug bill (H.R. 9924) to give the IWY Commission \$10 million to stage women's conferences during 1976 in every one of the 50 states, followed by one large national conference.

The idea for International Women's Year conferences came from the United Nations project of the same name, which sponsored a big conference in Mexico City in June 1975. It disintegrated into disorderly wrangles among the delegates, but it did provide free trips at the taxpayers' expense for women from many countries who yearned for an international "consciousness-raising session."

## The Vote on the Abzug Bill

The *Washington Post* reported that Congressmen were "deluged with opposition mail saying that IWY conferences would be used to generate support for the Equal Rights Amendment and for abortion." But the majority of Congressmen chose to ignore the wishes of their constituents.

On December 10, 1975, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Abzug bill by a vote of 252 to 162. Congressmen Sam Steiger of Arizona and Robert Bauman of Maryland circulated a splendid "Dear Colleague" letter in advance of the vote, and then did an outstanding job in leading the debate against the bill on the floor of the House. They were ably assisted in debate by Congressmen Henry Hyde and Robert Michel of Illinois, and John Ashbrook of Ohio. It is difficult to see how any Congressman could vote for the Abzug bill after listening to the overwhelming arguments against it.

Congressmen Steiger and Bauman did, however, succeed in attaching several amendments to H.R. 9924 before it passed. The original \$10 million amount was cut to \$5 million. The termination date of the Commission was set at March 31, 1978 (instead of 1985, thereby cutting its life from ten years to three). The Commission was prohibited from using any of the funds for lobbying activities. And, most important, Congressmen Steiger and Bauman succeeded in getting Bella Abzug and her cohorts to promise that all opinions will be fairly represented at the IWY conferences. Congresswoman Bella Abzug stated during the debate on December 10, 1975:

**"The significant thing about this national conference is that it will afford an opportunity for every kind of woman, representing every viewpoint, in every state of this nation to make a statement of her concern. . . .**

**"This is not a bill which projects or requires the conference to project a particular point of view. There will be women coming to this conference who hold opposing viewpoints on all subjects.**

**"There will be those who are for the ERA represented there, there will be some who are opposed to the ERA represented there. . . .**

**"[The IWY conferences are] intended to cover the broadest possible spectrum and to insure the broadest**

**"It is our desire that all women have the opportunity**

**to participate, . . . women in all walks of life, from every economic background -- a housewife, homemaker, a person who works, a person who does not work [should] have an opportunity to attend."**

Congresswoman Abzug's statements were echoed by her supporters, such as Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm who said: "This is not going to be a one-sided conference."

The very next day after the Abzug bill passed in the House, it was brought up in the Senate by Senator Birch Bayh who asked for "unanimous consent" of the Senate to bypass regular committee procedure and pass the bill immediately, without hearings or debate. Under "unanimous consent," a bill can be passed with the agreement of only those Senators who are on the floor at the time, provided that no single Senator objects. This can be done with as few as two Senators present, and there is no roll call.

Difficult as it is to believe, not a single Senator objected, and the Abzug bill passed.

## Future Action on the Abzug Bill

We did not ask our friends to write President Ford and request a veto, as we considered that probably a futile effort. We never have had a President who so obviously allows his mind to be made up for him by his key advisers (Henry Kissinger in foreign policy, Nelson Rockefeller in bailing out New York City, and Betty Ford in women's matters).

However, the battle is a long way from over, and your action is urgently needed to stop the spending of \$5 million of the taxpayers' money for women's lib propaganda in *your* state and every one of the other 49 states during our Bicentennial year. Here are two courses of action.

**1. Defeat the appropriation.** H.R. 9924, which passed the Congress in December, was simply the *authorization* for the women's conferences -- *NOT* the *appropriation*. The Abzug bill simply set a maximum of \$5 million which *can* be spent for women's conferences. *Before any* of the \$5 million can be turned over to the IWY Commission, the *appropriation* must be approved by the House and Senate. This will probably be done as a "line" item in the next appropriation bill (that is, buried in a single line in a bill appropriating money for other purposes). Passage of the Abzug bill does not mean that \$5 million *will* be appropriated; it means that *any amount up to* \$5 million *can* be appropriated.

The IWY request for \$5 million is now in the hands of the House Appropriations Committee, whose chairman is Congressman George H. Mahon (D.) of Texas (who voted against H.R. 9924).

We urge you to contact Congressman Mahon and every member of the House Appropriations Committee, plus your own Congressmen and Senators, and urge them to defeat this appropriation. This *CAN* be done if enough people will let their voices be heard.

**2. Make sure that the women's conferences are non-lib.** In the unhappy event that we cannot stop this ripoff of the taxpayers for the women's libbers' pet project, then we must hold their feet to the fire and make them live up to their solemn pledges made in Congress that "all women will have the opportunity to participate." Ms. Abzug stated the reason why \$5 million was needed:

**"The funding proposed in this bill . . . is necessary to make certain that there can be state meetings to provide the opportunity for women of all kinds . . . representing**

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# What's Wrong With \$5 Million for IWY Commission?

Congressmen Sam Steiger and Robert Bauman did a magnificent job of presenting the arguments (in debate on the floor of Congress, in a "Dear Colleague" letter, and in the hearings) against the Bella Abzug bill to finance \$5 million in women's conferences during the Bicentennial year. In substance, here are the major arguments:

## Waste of Money

1. This is a fantastic waste of the taxpayers' money -- at a time when the nation faces a huge budget deficit, many pressing problems, a rising national debt, and double-digit inflation. There is **NO** justification for doling out \$5 million of the taxpayers' money to a tiny pressure group of women's libbers so that, in turn, they can reward their friends with free trips, free hotel accommodations, free meals and cocktail parties at state and national conferences.

These conferences constitute massive duplication with the Commissions on the Status of Women already functioning in nearly every state.

To place the \$5 million in better perspective, remember that, under the new federal election law, the 1976 Democratic and Republican National Conventions are each allotted only \$2 million. Why, then, should women's conventions have \$5 million?

If the women's libbers, or any other special-interest pressure group, want to have state or national conferences, they are welcome to do so. But they should pay for it themselves -- **NOT** make the taxpayers finance it.

## Propaganda Forum

2. The amendment that prohibits the use of any of the \$5 million for lobbying is almost impossible to enforce, and there is every reason to expect that the conferences will, in fact, be forums for radical propaganda.

We all know the record of the women's libbers in using taxpayers' money to lobby for ERA at State Capitols, to fund their various Commissions on the Status of Women, and to promote their narrow radical view of women. The IWY Commission -- which will control the spending of the \$5 million -- has already proved its intolerance of non-lib views. There is not a single person on, or working for, the IWY Commission who opposes the Equal Rights Amendment. The chief staff person employed by the IWY Commission is a longtime lobbyist for ERA. The IWY Commission al-

(Continued from page 2)

**every point of view."**

Since we represent the majority American view of women, we are entitled to a majority of the (1) staff, (2) speakers, (3) delegates, (4) time allocation at the conferences, (5) resolutions, (6) press coverage, and (7) whatever federal money will be spent at these conferences. The IWY Commission is obviously planning to spend enormous sums of money on staff and to *pay* delegates to attend. There is no other way they could possibly spend \$5 million on conferences.

Ms. Abzug stated during the Congressional debate that \$4 million out of the \$5 million will be spent for *state* conferences, and that these will be set up by "coordinating committees." Then she promised:

**"The Commission would assist in establishing in each state a coordinating committee drawn from the broadest**

ready has some \$350,000 of federal money, and has nothing to show for it but pro-ERA publicity.

A forecast of future conferences was given in an IWY Symposium at the University of Texas at Dallas, October 19-29, 1975. It included sessions promoting abortion, lesbianism, ERA, and "Alice Doesn't Day."

## IWY=UN Anti-Semitism

3. The whole idea of "International Women's Year" is a United Nations propaganda project tied inescapably with the disorderly and useless brawl in Mexico City in June 1975, and to the anti-Semitic resolutions of that conference and of the UN itself. By definition, International Women's Year is anti-Semitic. Read for yourself the following excerpts from the official UN resolution adopted on November 11, 1975 that denounced Zionism and caused such an uproar:

"Taking note of the declaration of Mexico on the equality of women and their contribution to development and peace, proclaimed by the **World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City** from 19 June to 2 July 1975, which promulgated the principle that 'international cooperation and peace require the achievement of national liberation and independence, the elimination of colonialism and neocolonialism, foreign occupation, **Zionism**, apartheid, and racial discrimination in all its forms as well as the recognition of the dignity of peoples and their right to self-determination.' . . .

"Determines that **Zionism** is a form of racism and racial discrimination."

## Misrepresentation

4. Support for the Abzug bill was lined up in Congress by a "Dear Colleague" letter circulated by Bella Abzug and other women's libbers in Congress. This letter attached a list of organizations that purportedly endorsed the Abzug bill. Among these was listed the Republican National Committee. When Congressman Bauman checked this out, he received a letter from the Chairman of the Republican National Committee stating that "the RNC has taken no position on this Resolution, officially or unofficially."

Thus, the Abzug bill came to the Congress with a misrepresentation of endorsements, and it remains an open question how many of the other organizations on the list actually endorsed the Abzug bill.

**possible spectrum of interested women; this coordinating committee would then take over the primary responsibility for the meeting in its state."**

If Congress actually appropriates the money, we should immediately start demanding our share of this money, and a majority of spots on the coordinating committee -- and be ready with press releases to charge the IWY Commission with misrepresentation, dishonesty, and suppression of free speech, if they try to freeze us out. The law, incidentally, requires that all actions and meetings of the Commission be public information.

The entire range of women's issues will be involved in these conferences (abortion, ERA, child-care centers, textbooks, lesbian rights, the churches, etc.), and we must make sure that tax monies are **NOT** spent to promote the radical women's lib, anti-family opinions.

# House Vote on the Abzug Bill, Dec. 10, 1975

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 252, nays 162, answered "present" 1, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 761]

## YEAS—252

Abdnor	Frenzel	O'Neill
Abzug	Gaiamo	Ottinger
Adams	Gibbons	Patten, N.J.
Addabbo	Gonzalez	Patterson,
Allen	Green	Calif.
Ambro	Gude	Pattison, N.Y.
Anderson,	Guyer	Pepper
Calif.	Hall	Perkins
Anderson, Ill.	Hamilton	Pettis
Andrews, N.C.	Hannafor	Peyster
Annunzio	Harkin	Pickle
Ashley	Harrington	Pike
Aspin	Harris	Pressler
AuCoin	Hawkins	Preyer
Badillo	Hayes, Ind.	Price
Baldus	Hays, Ohio	Pritchard
Barrett	Heckler, Mass.	Quie
Baucus	Hicks	Rangel
Bedell	Hillis	Rees
Bell	Holland	Regula
Bergland	Holtzman	Reuss
Biaggi	Howard	Richmond
Biester	Howe	Rinaldo
Bingham	Hughes	Risenhoover
Blanchard	Jacobs	Rodino
Blouin	Jeffords	Roe
Boggs	Johnson, Calif.	Roncalio
Boland	Johnson, Colo.	Rooney
Bolling	Johnson, Pa.	Rose
Bonker	Jordan	Rosenthal
Brademas	Karth	Rostenkowski
Breckinridge	Kastenmeier	Roybal
Brodhead	Keys	Runnels
Brooks	Koch	Ruppe
Broomfield	LaFalce	Russo
Brown, Calif.	Leggett	Santini
Burke, Calif.	Lehman	Sarasin
Burke, Mass.	Levitas	Sarbanes
Burton, John	Litton	Scheuer
Burton, Phillip	Lloyd, Calif.	Schroeder
Carney	Long, La.	Seiberling
Carr	Long, Md.	Sharp
Carter	McClory	Shriver
Chisholm	McCloskey	Simon
Clausen,	McCormack	Skubitz
Don H.	McDade	Slack
Clay	McFall	Smith, Iowa
Cleveland	McHugh	Smith, Nebr.
Cohen	McKinney	Solarz
Collins, Ill.	Macdonald	Staggers
Conable	Madden	Stanton,
Conte	Maguire	J. William
Conyers	Martin	James V.
Corman	Matsunaga	Stark
Cornell	Mazzoli	Steelman
Cotter	Meeds	Steiger, Wis.
Coughlin	Melcher	Stokes
D'Amours	Metcalfe	Stratton
Daniels, N.J.	Meyner	Studds
de la Garza	Mezvinsky	Symington
Dellums	Mikva	Thompson
Dent	Miller, Calif.	Thone
Diggs	Mills	Traxler
Dingell	Mineta	Tsongas
Dodd	Minish	Udall
Downey, N.Y.	Mink	Ullman
Drinan	Mitchell, Md.	Van Deerlin
du Pont	Moakley	Vander Veen
Early	Moffett	Vahik
Eckhardt	Mollohan	Waxman
Edgar	Moorhead, Pa.	Weaver
Edwards, Calif.	Morgan	Whalen
Eilberg	Mosher	White
Emery	Moss	Wilson, Tex.
Erlenborn	Mottl	Winn
Evans, Colo.	Murphy, Ill.	Wirth
Fary	Murphy, N.Y.	Wolf
Fascell	Murtha	Wright
Fenwick	Myers, Pa.	Wylder
Fish	Nedzi	Yates
Fisher	Nix	Yatron
Flood	Nolan	Young, Alaska
Foley	Nowak	Young, Ga.
Ford, Mich.	Oberstar	
Ford, Tenn.	Obey	
Forsythe	O'Hara	

## NAYS—162

Alexander	Beard, R.I.	Brinkley
Archer	Beard, Tenn.	Brown, Mich.
Armstrong	Bennett	Brown, Ohio
Ashbrook	Bevill	Broyhill
Bafalis	Bowen	Buchanan
Bauman	Breaux	Burgener
Burleson, Tex.	Hefner	Nichols
Burlison, Mo.	Henderson	O'Brien
Butler	Hightower	Passman
Byron	Holt	Poage
Cederberg	Hubbard	Quillen
Chappell	Hungate	Randall
Clancy	Hutchinson	Rhodes
Cochran	Hyde	Roberts
Clawson, Del	Ichord	Robinson
Collins, Tex.	Jarman	Rogers
Conlan	Jenrette	Roush
Crane	Jones, Ala.	Rousselot
Daniel, Dan	Jones, N.C.	St Germain
Daniel, R. W.	Jones, Okla.	Satterfield
Danielson	Jones, Tenn.	Schneebell
Delaney	Kasten	Schulze
Derrick	Kazen	Sebelius
Derwinski	Kelly	Shipley
Devine	Kemp	Shuster
Dickinson	Ketchum	Sikes
Downing, Va.	Kindness	Sisk
Duncan, Ore.	Krebs	Snyder
Duncan, Tenn.	Krueger	Spence
Edwards, Ala.	Lagomarsino	Steiger, Ariz.
English	Landrum	Stephens
Eshleman	Latta	Stuckey
Evans, Ind.	Lent	Sullivan
Findley	Lloyd, Tenn.	Symms
Fithian	Lott	Talcott
Florio	Lujan	Taylor, Mo.
Flowers	McCollister	Taylor, N.C.
Flynt	McDonald	Thornton
Fountain	McEwen	Treen
Frey	McKay	Vander Jagt
Fuqua	Madigan	Vigorito
Gilman	Mahon	Waggonner
Ginn	Mann	Walsh
Goldwater	Mathis	Wampler
Goodling	Michel	Whitehurst
Gradison	Millford	Whitten
Grassley	Miller, Ohio	Wiggins
Hagedorn	Mitchell, N.Y.	Wilson, Bob
Haley	Montgomery	Wilson, C. H.
Hammer-	Moore	Wylie
schmidt	Moorhead,	Young, Fla.
Hansen	Calif.	Young, Tex.
Harsha	Myers, Ind.	Zablocki
Hastings	Natcher	Zeperetti
Hechler, W. Va.	Neal	

## ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Evins, Tenn.

## NOT VOTING—19

Andrews,	Gaydos	Patman, Tex.
N. Dak.	Hanley	Railsback
Burke, Fla.	Hébert	Riegle
Casey	Heinz	Spellman
Davis	Helstoski	Steed
Esch	Hinshaw	Teague
Fraser	Horton	

The Clerk announced the following pairs.

Mrs. Spellman with Mr. Horton.  
Mr. Helstoski with Mr. Andrews of North Dakota.  
Mr. Hébert with Mr. Burke of Florida.  
Mr. Fraser with Mr. Esch.  
Mr. Riegle with Mr. Railsback.  
Mr. Hanley with Mr. Hinshaw.  
Mr. Patman with Mr. Heinz.  
Mr. Steed with Mr. Teague.  
Mr. Casey with Mr. Davis.

So the bill was passed.

## WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN:

If he voted NO: Thank him for voting NO on H.R. 9924; and ask him to vote against any appropriation for the Commission on International Women's Year.

If he voted YES: Tell him you are terribly disappointed that he voted for this wasteful authorization of \$5 million to a women's lib pressure group -- and tell him he can redeem himself by voting NO on the appropriation.

Cut out the entire "House Vote on the Abzug Bill" and reprint it or paste it on another sheet. Circle YOUR Congressman's name so HE will know that YOU know how he voted. Write your message in the empty space.

## Members of The House Appropriations Committee

George H. Mahon, Tex., Chairman.  
Jamie L. Whitten, Miss.  
Robert L. F. Sikes, Fla.  
Otto E. Passman, La.  
Joe L. Evins, Tenn.  
Edward P. Boland, Mass.  
William H. Natcher, Ky.  
Daniel J. Flood, Pa.  
Tom Steed, Okla.  
George E. Shipley, Ill.  
John M. Slack, W. Va.  
John J. Flynt, Jr., Ga.  
Neal Smith, Iowa  
Robert N. Giaimo, Conn.  
Joseph P. Addabbo, N.Y.  
John J. McFall, Calif.  
Edward J. Patten, N.J.  
Clarence D. Long, Md.  
Sidney R. Yates, Ill.  
Bob Casey, Tex.  
Frank E. Evans, Colo.  
David R. Obey, Wis.  
Edward R. Roybal, Calif.  
Louis Stokes, Ohio.  
J. Edward Roush, Ind.  
K. Gunn McKay, Utah.  
Tom Bevill, Ala.  
Bill Chappell, Jr., Fla.  
Bill D. Burlison, Mo.  
Bill Alexander, Ark.  
Edward I. Koch, N.Y.  
Yvonne B. Burke, Calif.  
John P. Murtha, Pa.  
Bob Traxler, Mich.  
Robert Duncan, Ore.  
Joseph D. Early, Mass.  
Max S. Baucus, Mont.

*Elford A. Cederberg, Mich.*  
*Robert H. Michel, Ill.*  
*Silvio O. Conte, Mass.*  
*Garner E. Shriver, Kan.*  
*Joseph M. McDade, Pa.*  
*Mark Andrews, N. Dak.*  
*Burt L. Talcott, Calif.*  
*Jack Edwards, Ala.*  
*Robert C. McEwen, N.Y.*  
*John T. Myers, Ind.*  
*J. Kenneth Robinson, Va.*  
*Clarence E. Miller, Ohio.*  
*Lawrence Coughlin, Pa.*  
*C. W. Bill Young, Fla.*  
*Jack Kemp, N.Y.*  
*William L. Armstrong, Colo.*  
*Ralph S. Regula, Ohio*  
*Clair Burgener, Calif.*

Democrats in Roman  
Republicans in italics

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