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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPROVES RELEASE OF KENNEDY DOCUMENTS WASHINGTON, AUG 12, REUTER - THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPROVED A BILL ON WEDNESDAY PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OF LONG-SECRET DOCUMENTS AND OTHER MATERIALS ON THE 1963 ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN KENNEDY.

THE ACTION FOLLOWED RENEWED CALLS FOR DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION SPARKED IN PART BY THE FILM, JFK,:: WHICH DEPICTED IT AS THE RESULT OF A CONSPIRACY.

THE WARREN COMMISSION THAT INVESTIGATED THE ASSASSINATION SAID LEE HARVEY OSWALD ACTED ALONE IN SHOOTING KENNEDY FROM A WINDOW IN THE TEXAS BOOK DEPOSITORY IN DALLAS AS THE PRESIDENT WAS PASSING BELOW IN A NOTORCADE.

BUT THE CONCLUSION HAS BEEN DISPUTED IN DOZENS OF CONSPIRACY THEORIES ADVANCED OVER THE YEARS, INCLUDING CHARGES THAT THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA) WAS INVOLVED.

A SPECIAL HOUSE COMMITTEE SET UP TO INVESTIGATE THE ASSASSINATION REPORTED IN 1979 THAT IT BELIEVED OSWALD HAD NOT ACTED ALONE.

THE COMMITTEE:S FILES, ALONG WITH THOSE OF THE WARREN COMMISSION, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND CIA AND OTHER AGENCIES, WOULD BE COULD BE MADE PUBLIC UNDER THE BILL. THE TIME HAS CONE TO END THIS UNNECESSARY AND DESTRUCTIVE SECRECY:: REP JOHN CONYERS, A MICHIGAN DENOCRAT, TOLD THE HOUSE ON TUESDAY, NOTING THAT HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOCUMENTS REMAINED SECRET AND UNDER CURRENT LAW WOULD BE CLOSED UNTIL 2029.

UNDER THE BILL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WOULD WOULD HAVE 60 DAYS TO REVIEW ASSASSINATION MATERIALS IN THEIR POSSESSION AND DECIDE WHICH CAN BE RELEASED IMMEDIATELY. THE MATERIALS WOULD BE SENT TO THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.

A SPECIAL FIVE-MEMBER REVIEW BOARD WOULD BE SET UP TO DECIDE WHETHER OTHER MATERIALS SHOULD BE RELEASED OR KEPT FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BECAUSE OF PRIVACY CONCERNS OR A POSSIBLE THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY OR LAW ENFORCEMENT.

THE BOARD COULD ISSUE SUBPOENAS AND PETITION COURTS FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION.

THE BILL HUST BE RECONCILED WITH A SENATE-PASSED BILL BEFORE A FINAL KEASURE CAN BE SENT TO THE PRESIDENT.

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