

Congress Funds Cut Stopped

WASHINGTON — A threatened cutback of education funds for U.S. territories was halted on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives Tuesday by a coalition of congressmen, including Rep. Antonio B. Won Pat of Guam.

Calling the victory "a major one for education in the territories," Won Pat said he and his colleagues were able to

gather House approval of an amendment offered by Hawaii Rep. Patsy Mink to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The amendment calls for the territories to be assured of federal funding under Title I (Aid to Disadvantaged Children) at the fiscal 1973 level. Guam received \$1.15 million in Title I funds that year.

Had the House approved the original version of the bill, Won Pat said, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands and the Trust Territory would have shared a loss of more than \$1 million from the 1973 levels,

the highest ever for the program. The committee version of the bill had asked that the territories receive only one per cent of the total allocation in the bill for Title I programs.

Won Pat warned, however,

that the one per cent figure would have meant that the territories would share only \$18.8 million next fiscal year with the American Indian Bureau rather than the \$20.9 million expended in fiscal 1973.