

Roll Call Report

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes June 24.

HOUSE
ENERGY DEPARTMENT: Adopted, 238 for and 119 against, an amendment preventing the Secretary of Energy from single-handedly regulating the wellhead price of natural gas and making certain other economic decisions affecting energy. Those voting for the amendment favored less power for the secretary.

The amendment was attached to HR 6804, later passed and sent to conference. The bill creates a Department of Energy to absorb the Federal Power Commission, Energy Research and Development Administration and Federal Energy Agency into a super-agency to coordinate national energy policy.

Originally the bill proposed giving the Secretary of Energy broad authority to make economic decisions. But this amendment limited that authority by transferring powers such as the setting of natural gas prices to an independent commission within the department.

Reps. David Bonior (D-12), William Broadhead (D-17) and William Broomfield (R-19) voted "yes."
 Rep. James Blanchard (D-18) voted "nay."
 Rep. Carl Pursell (R-2) did not vote.

TAX EXEMPTION: Passed, 294 for and 83 against, a bill (HR 6893) exempting members of Congress who live in Maryland from the payment of Maryland state income taxes. An estimated 100 House members and senators would be exempted. It was sent to the Senate.
 Maryland permits members who pay income taxes to their home states to deduct that payment from their Maryland liability, so that they are not taxed twice. Virginia and D.C. have exempted congressmen from their income taxes.
 Broadhead, Blanchard and Broomfield voted "yes."
 Pursell voted "nay."
 Bonior answered "present."

HATCH ACT: Passed, 244 for and

164 against, a bill (HR 10) repealing most of the 1939 Hatch Act's ban on political involvement by federal workers. It was sent to the Senate. The legislation would, in part, enable some three million federal civil servants to run for office and take part in other political activities.

Rep. Morris Udall (D-Ariz.), a supporter, said the bill strikes a balance so that "we can protect the political lives of these three million Americans and at the same time protect the interest of American people in non-partisan, nonpolitical administration of our government."

Rep. James Cleveland (R-N.H.), an opponent, said he is "concerned over political abuse of the federal employee as well as abuses potentially perpetrated by federal employees to the detriment of the public." He said the Hatch Act has protected for almost 40 years "the public's right to an impartial Civil Service relatively immune to the excesses of partisan political manipulation."

Bonior, Broadhead and Blanchard voted "yes."
 Broomfield and Pursell voted "nay."

SENATE

FLOOD INSURANCE: Adopted, 49 for and 36 against, an amendment to ease certain federal flood insurance program restrictions on local communities. It permits federally-regulated financial institutions to loan in flood-prone areas regardless of whether the community has made itself eligible for federal flood insurance. The overall bill (HR 6655) was passed and sent to conference.

The amendment removes federal sanctions which in the past have motivated communities to join the federal program, sometimes against their will. The price communities would pay for such relief is that federal disaster assistance would be unavailable to flood-zone property owners in the event of a flood.

The amendment would benefit some 3,000 communities in 48 states now sanctioned by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for their failure to comply with the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973.

Sens. Robert Griffin (R) and Donald Riegle (D) voted "yes."

"REDLINING": Rejected, 31 for and 40 against, an amendment to kill language discouraging "redlining" by lending institutions. This is the practice of refusing to loan mortgage money in slum neighborhoods. The amendment was proposed to HR 6655, a major housing bill later passed and sent to conference with the House.

At issue was the bill's stipulation that federal bank examiners check the extent to which lenders loan in the immediate community, with failure to adequately loan taken into account when the institution seeks federal permission to build a branch office. Senators voting "nay" favored the sanction against redlining.

Riegle voted "nay" and Griffin did not vote.

Thursday, June 18, 1977

(F-18A, Ro-15A) (RW) LIA

Next two decades to be decisive for metro economy

The key to the Detroit area's long term economic future rests on whether it can attract new, fast growing industries as it did in the period from World War II through the '60s according to a Central Michigan University economist.

In the next two decades, the economic growth of the metropolitan area will largely be determined by the success of its existing industries and how fast its population grows, says James R. Moor, assistant professor of economics at CMU.

Moor has recently updated and revised a study of the Detroit regional economy for Oakland County planning officials. His projections don't paint as rosy a picture as earlier forecasts, but his figures indicate that Detroit and Michigan economies should grow even while lagging behind the national economy.

The region study by Moor is the same as the area served by the South Eastern Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG)—Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, St. Clair, Monroe and Livingston counties.

A key in studying an urban economy lies in looking at the industries comprising that economy, which Moor divided into two sectors, local-service and export.

In the Detroit area, the export industries consist largely of auto and related industries. Retail businesses,

real estate, insurance and others make up many of the local service industries.

Growth of Detroit's export industries is dependent upon national demand that has dropped in the 70s. Government estimates for future demand indicate the boom period of the '60s won't occur again.

Moor's model is flexible because it can accept alternate views for the future of Detroit's exports and produce projections for population, employment and income.

Moor noted the model's projections would be thrown off if there was a significant change in the economy's structure or an unanticipated event like an oil embargo.

He is confident in his projections through 1990. If moderate demand increases occur about one to two per cent per year for the auto industry, the model predicts a population of 3.2 million and 2.1 million jobs at the turn of the century.

Moor contrasted his findings with older Department of Commerce figures which predict one million more people and about 500,000 more jobs. Moor said to follow these figures in planning for the future would be disastrous, especially with respect to government expenditures.

"The auto industry won't dry up and blow away. Per capita income goes up under all but my most nega-

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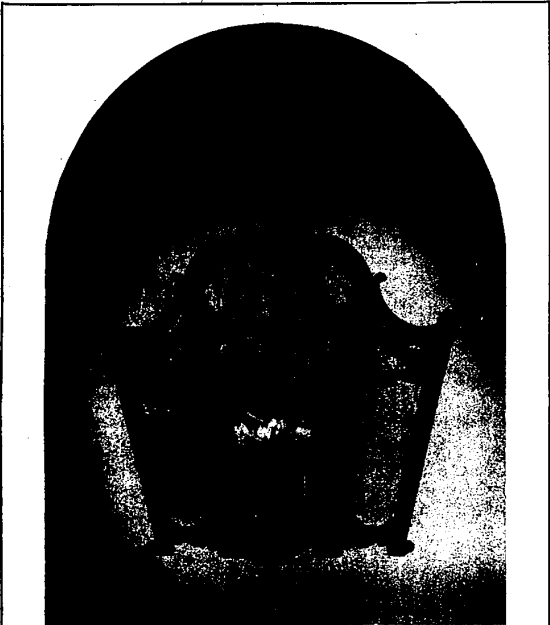
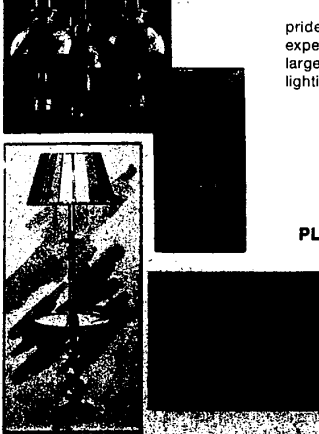
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