

Roll Call Report



Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes May 4 through May 10.

HOUSE

BUDGET CUT—Rejected. 195 for and 203 against, an amendment to cut the fiscal 1979 budget across-the-board by two per cent. It was proposed to H Con Res 559, the congressional budget resolution by which Congress sets "target" levels that restrict the amounts of later appropriations bills. The amendment sought to reduce the \$501.4 billion in outlays and the \$588.2 billion in budget authority proposed for fiscal 1979, which begins in October. The House later adopted the resolution, with those figures intact, and sent it to conference with the Senate.

Rep. Joseph Fisher, (D-Va.), the sponsor, said "There is no way we can convince people in this country that we cannot cut the budget by that amount."

Rep. Norman Mineta, (D-Calif.), an opponent, said: "This seemingly innocuous two per cent cut could have drastic ramifications, depending on where it fell."

Members voting "yea" favored the budget cut.

Reps. William Broomfield, (R-Birm.), and Carl Pursell, (R-Plymouth), voted "yea."

Reps. David Bonior, (D-Mt. Pleasant), William Broadhead, (D-Detroit), and James Blanchard, (P.I. Ridge), voted "nay."

Rep. William Ford, (D-Taylor), did not vote.

TUITION TAX CREDITS—Adopted. 227 for and 126 against, an amendment in support of a federal tax credit to defray tuition costs at colleges, post-secondary vocational schools and private elementary and secondary schools. The amendment merely made room in the fiscal 1979 budget for any later enactment of tuition tax credit legislation. It was attached to H Con Res 559, the fiscal 1979 budget resolution (see vote above). Parents' maximum tax saving would be \$150 annually against college tuition and \$100 against elementary and secondary school tuition.

Rep. Thomas Luken, (D-Ohio), the sponsor, said the tax credit would benefit families that are "too poor to afford the costs of a college education, yet too well off for federal assistance."

Rep. Paul Simon, D-Ill., an opponent, said that under the tax credit "between 30 per cent and 55 per cent of the benefits will go to the top 20 per cent, income-wise, in the U.S., and that, it seems to me, is clearly not good public policy."

Members voting yea favored the tuition tax credit.

Broomfield voted "yea."

Bonior, Ford, Broadhead, Blanchard and Pursell voted "nay."

KOREAGATE—Rejected. 146 for and 254 against, an amendment to cut \$6 million from the proposed fiscal 1979 budget, in hopes of bringing about increased South Korean government cooperation with the House's investigation of the Koreagate scandal. The cut would have been in spending for "Food-for-Peace," the federal program whose rice transactions were related to the alleged bribery of a few House members by South Koreans. The amendment was proposed to H

Con Res 559, the congressional budget resolution on motion (see votes above).

Rep. Robert Walker, (R-Pa.), a supporter, said that if the House rejects the amendment "it is going to be a clear signal to the South Koreans that as far as the House is concerned, we are no longer interested (in investigating Koreagate) and the issue will go away."

Rep. B.F. Sisk, (D-Calif.), an opponent, said he is "getting totally fed up with all of these charges about corruption. It is totally ridiculous to have here debating this silly, asinine issue, which has no place in connection with the handling of the budget."

Members voting "yea" favored the amendment.

Broadhead voted "yea."

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

Ford did not vote.

SENATE

CIVILETTI—Confirmed. 72 for and 22 against, the nomination of Benjamin R. Civiletti as deputy attorney general of the U.S. Much opposition to his becoming the second-ranking official in the Justice Department centered on the firing last year by the Carter Administration of Republican David Marston from his post as U.S. attorney in Philadelphia.

Sen. James Eastland (D-Miss.), a supporter, said the 17 days of confirmation hearings on Civiletti "prove beyond any premeditation of a doubt that (he) is an outstanding attorney who has given up a lucrative law practice to serve the U.S. government."

Sen. Malcolm Wallop (R-Wyo.), an opponent, cited the Marston affair and called himself "troubled" by Civiletti's "perpetuation of a contemporary morality of justice which connotes a double standard where politically expedient or convenient."

Senators voting "yea" favored confirmation.

Sen. Donald Riegle (D), voted "yea."

Sen. Robert Griffin (R), voted "nay."

REVOLVING DOOR?—Failed. 20 for and 75 against, to send back to committee—and thus reject—the nomination of Lynn R. Coleman as general counsel of the Department of Energy. Failure of this motion resulted in the confirmation of Coleman, whose nomination was opposed because he once belonged to a Houston law firm representing major oil companies and had been Washington lobbyist for Houston Natural Gas Co.

Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio), sponsor of the motion, said the American public would dislike Coleman coming "directly out of the oil and gas industry, following the revolving door principle, to become the regulator of that very industry that he has been representing and is representing as of this moment."

Sen. John Tower (R-Tex.), an opponent of the motion and backer of Coleman, called the nominee "a very fine lawyer who will bring to the new Department of Energy broad knowledge and experience in energy law." Senators voting "nay" favored Coleman's confirmation.

Riegle voted "yea."

Griffin voted "nay."

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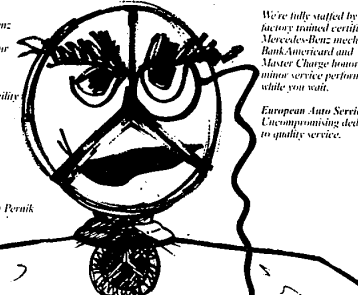
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