

House protects tobacco and neutron bomb

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes May 11 through May 17.

HOUSE
Tobacco—Rejected, 126 for and 186 against, an amendment to prevent U.S. tobacco and tobacco products from being sold abroad under the Food-for-Peace program. The amendment was proposed to a foreign aid bill (HR 12222), which was later passed. The Senate has not yet acted on a counterpart bill.

Rep. James Johnson, R-Colo., the sponsor, said that "One day this Congress and this U.S. have to face up to the inconsistency of promoting and supporting tobacco products at the same time we recognize that it is the most deadly poison we consume in this country."

Rep. Stephen Neal, D-N.C., an opponent, said that "if we are going to start banning potentially harmful farm commodities, we might as well take a look at sugar, too, and maybe at all those delectable foods which produce

Roll Call Report



the 'killer' cholesterol."

Members voting "yes" favored halting overseas sales of tobacco.

Reps. David Bonior (D-Mt. Clemens), and James Blanchard (D-Pt. Ridge), voted "yes."

Rep. William Broomfield (R-Birm.), voted "nay."

Reps. William Ford (D-Taylor), William Brodhead (D-Detroit) and Carl Pursell (R-Ply.), did not vote.

FOREIGN AID—Adopted, 200 for and 172 against, an amendment cutting the fiscal 1979 non-military foreign aid bill by five per cent. It is generally an across-the-board cut in the \$3,736 bil-

lion bill, but exempts spending for food and nutrition programs in underdeveloped countries and hospitals abroad. The bill (HR 12222) was later passed.

Rep. Robert Bauman, R-Md., the sponsor, said: "If, indeed, we are ever

to hold the line on spending anywhere, I would hope that this is one program . . . with all the questions about mismanagement and waste, that could indeed be cut."

Rep. Clement Zablocki, D-Wis., an opponent, said "The bulk of this cut would come from the moneys for Israel and Egypt, both of whom need the help that we give them."

Members voting "yes" favored the cut.

Broomfield voted "yes."

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

Ford did not vote.

NEUTRON BOMB—Rejected, 90 for and 306 against, an amendment to

knock funding for the neutron bomb out of the fiscal 1979 Department of Energy national security budget. The aftermath of the vote is that President Carter is free to order production of the bomb next year. Neutron bombs are tactical nuclear weapons that inflict most of their damage by enhanced radiation. The amendment was proposed to HR 11688, later passed and sent to the Senate.

Rep. Ted Weiss, D-N.Y., the sponsor, said that "after some 33 years of living on the edge of nuclear terror, we have become so careless or blasé or unconcerned about the future of humanity that we are willing to let nuclear weapons—neutron bombs—be

used almost the same way hand grenades would be used."

Rep. Dan Daniel, D-Va., an opponent, said: "The enhanced radiation weapon is a weapon of peace, not war. It's primary value is deterrent. It is well known that our adversary, the Soviet Union, can 'button up' against conventional nuclear fallout, against biological and chemical warfare agents. It has no defense against the neutron."

Members voting "yes" opposed production of the neutron bomb.

Bonior, Brodhead and Pursell voted "yes."

Blanchard and Broomfield voted "nay."

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