

# Area lawmakers back extended ERA deadline

Here's how area members of congress were recorded on major roll call votes Aug. 10 through Aug. 16.

## HOUSE

**ERA EXTENSION**—Voted, 233 for and 189 against, to extend by 39 months the deadline for states to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. The current deadline of March 22, 1979 would be extended to June 30, 1982. The proposed constitutional amendment has been ratified by 35 states. Three more must ratify it before it becomes part of the U.S. Constitution. The senate has not acted on the resolution (HJ Res 658) to extend the deadline and there is doubt that a final senate vote will occur this year.

Rep. Barbara Jordan (D-Tex.), a supporter, said: "Women have been going through the agony and ecstasy all their lives, and we will continue to

do so until the words 'equal rights under the law shall not be denied because of sex' are part of the constitution. We shall continue unrelentingly as long as is necessary."

Rep. Philip Crane (R-Ill.), an opponent, said: "Any retroactive change in the time frame because the desired result has not been achieved violates the solemn spirit with which any constitutional amendment should be approached. . . Altering the ratification process because of pressure from the groups involved is a step I am wary of taking."

Members voting "yes" favored extending the time for ratifying the ERA.

Reps. David Bonior (D-Mt. Clemens), William Ford (D-Taylor), William Brodhead (D-Detroit), James Blanchard (D-Pleasant Ridge), William Broomfield (R-Birmingham),

## Roll Call Report



and Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth), voted "yes."

**GOP TAX CUT**—Rejected, 177 for and 240 against, a proposal to reduce individual federal income tax rates across-the-board by about 33 per cent over the next three years. The measure, known as Kemp-Roth for its sponsors, Rep. Jack Kemp (R-N.Y.), and Sen. William Roth (R-Del.), is becoming a major campaign issue for the Republican Party. The vote, therefore, provided a clear choice between Democratic Party and GOP approaches to federal taxation.

The vote rejected a motion to send a tax bill back to the ways and means committee with instructions that the committee report it back to the House with Kemp-Roth in it.

Kemp, a supporter, said the proposal would give Americans "incentive to work, save, invest, and take economic risks." He said that the massive tax cut "will expand the total amount of economic activity, expand the total tax base . . . providing additional revenues with which to offset federal budget deficits."

Rep. Jim Wright (D-Tex.), an oppo-

nent, called Kemp-Roth "a glittering bauble of opportunism" that is "irresponsible way to cut taxes. . . simply to slash them indiscriminately and without regard for the effect it will have on spiraling deficits and rampaging inflation."

Members voting "yes" favored Kemp-Roth.

Broomfield and Pursell voted "yes." Bonior, Ford, Brodhead and Blanchard voted "nay."

**BUDGET CUT**—Defeated, 155 for and 241 against, an amendment to cut fiscal 1979 spending by one per cent (about \$5.6 billion) across-the-board in all government programs and departments. The measure was offered to the congressional budget resolution (H Con Res 658) setting overall ceilings and targets for government revenues and expenditures. The resolution sets a maximum federal budget of \$561 billion in the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1.

Rep. Jake Pickle (D-Tex.), a supporter, said the amendment "may be the very best way to show that we are trying to tighten our belts" and is "perhaps the best, if not the last,

chance today for us to make a meaningful cut in the overall budget deficit."

Rep. David Obey (D-Wis.), an opponent, said: "I have no objection to people coming in here and cutting specific programs, but this across-the-board, one per cent business is, I think, undignified. I think it is unreflexive of the courage and business sense I know is in this house and I don't think we ought to do it."

Members voting "yes" favored the one per cent cut in federal spending. Broomfield and Pursell voted "yes." Bonior, Ford, Brodhead and Blanchard voted "nay."

## SENATE

**TUITION TAX CREDITS**—Passed, 65 for and 27 against, a bill allowing parents a tax credit of 50 per cent of tuition and fees for each child in college or post-secondary vocational school, up to a maximum of \$250 per student. The credit is retroactive to Aug. 1, 1978, and will be increased to \$500 per student on Oct. 1, 1980. The bill (HR 12050) was sent to conference with the house.

Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn.), a supporter, said: "The tuition tax credit says to the American taxpayer, 'Yes, we know you struggle for your children. We recognize your efforts. I think it is time to do something about it. Let us pass this bill.'"

Sen. Robert Morgan (D-N.C.), an opponent, said: "We have to remember that college education is still a personal responsibility. . . We should also remember that going to college is a highly profitable investment."

Senators voting "yes" favored the tuition tax credit.

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

**TUITION TAX CREDITS**—Approved, 56 for and 41 against, an amendment excluding parochial and private elementary and secondary school students from the bill providing tuition tax credits. The bill (HR 12050) was later passed and sent to conference with the house (see vote above). This amendment limited the tax credit to college and post-secondary vocational schooling.

Sen. Thomas Eagleton (D-Mo.), a supporter, said tax credits for parochial school students violated "the constitutional requirement of separation of church and state."

Sen. Robert Packwood (R-Ore.), an opponent of the amendment, said that " . . . what the founders of this country intended, at least as evidenced by their practice, was never to preclude the use of public funds to be given to churches to run schools for primary and secondary children."

Members voting "yes" were opposed to tax credits for private and parochial school education.

Riegle and Griffin voted "yes."

## CONGRESSMAN FOR D.C.—

Agreed, 71 for and 22 against, to debate a proposed constitutional amendment (HJ Res 551) to give the District of Columbia two senators and one or more representatives in congress.

Griffin and Riegle voted "yes."

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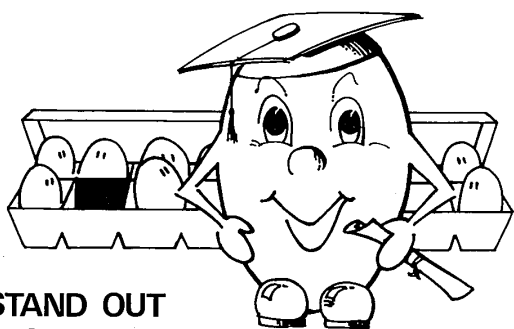
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