

Carter wins oil policy skirmish

WASHINGTON—Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes Sept. 7 through Sept. 13.

HOUSE

OIL POLICY Rejected, 194 for and 201 against, a motion to prohibit President Carter from imposing fees or quotas on imported oil. The vote was a victory for Carter's energy policy. He says the higher prices resulting from fees and quotas would discourage consumption of foreign oil. Spokesmen on the other side of the issue say such measures have the negative effect of holding back the price of domestic oil.

The motion would have forced House conferees on the Treasury Appropriations bill (HR 1230) to agree to a Senate provision restricting the President's authority to regulate the price and availability of foreign oil.

Rep. Clarence Brown, R-Ohio, sponsor of the motion, said: "The imposition of a \$5 import fee on crude oil would be nothing short of disastrous and it would have almost no effect on decreasing our import levels."

Rep. Jim Wright, D-Tex., an opponent, said that by passing the motion the House "shall be saying to the world that we simply do not care, that we are content to keep consuming along, fat, dumb, and happy, until we waste ourselves poor on foreign oil and spend it and run out of it, and then we shall just depend on Divine Providence to protect us."

Most members voting "yes" were opposed to Presidentially imposed fees and quotas on foreign oil imports. Reps. William Brockmeyer, R-19, and Carl Pursell, R-2, voted "yes."

Roll Call Report



Reps. David Bonior, D-12, William Ford, D-15, William Broadhead, D-17 and James Blanchard, D-18, voted "nay."

AIRPORT AID Adopted, 213 for and 147 against, an amendment authorizing an additional \$25 million in each of fiscal 1979 and 1980 for federal grants to general aviation airports such as those that serve many smaller cities. The money is in addition to at least \$30 million annually already included in HR 829 for such airports. The bill, the Airport and Airfield Noise Reduction Act of 1978, was headed for final passage and debate in the Senate.

The amendment also sets a new distribution formula that pleased smaller-state senators. The \$25 million will be divided evenly among the 50 states, rather than disbursed on the existing formula that favors states with large populations and geographical size.

Rep. Joe Skubitz, R-Kan., the sponsor, said: "The general aviation industry will never reach its peak unless we provide an adequate airport system. Industry in small cities not served by air will always be handicapped, unless business managers can

travel fast and expeditiously."

Rep. Dale Milford, D-Tex., an opponent, said: "To divide it equally between the 50 states in a stated amount totally disregards the distances involved, and the airline attracts itself to those states where we have vast distances. For instance, California has the highest number of airplanes."

Members voting "yes" favored the increased aid and formula change. Bonior and Pursell voted "yes." Broadhead and Blanchard voted "nay." Ford and Brockmeyer did not vote.

VETERANS Rejected, 149 for and 222 against, an amendment making it easier for veterans of the Vietnam theater to land Civil Service jobs. The amendment was unpopular because it also denied pre-Vietnam veterans the preference that now gives them an edge over non-veterans in competing for federal jobs. The amendment was proposed to HR 1129, the Civil Service reform bill later passed and sent to conference with the Senate.

The existing veterans' preference gives all veterans a five-point bonus on the Civil Service exam, disabled veterans get a ten-point bonus. The effect of this amendment, in part, was to deny the bonus points to individuals who entered the military before adoption of the Aug. 7, 1964 Gulf of Tonkin resolution. It also sought to limit the use of the veterans' preference to one time per veteran. After this vote, the House voted to keep the preference in its present form—which means a veteran of any era can continue to use it an unlimited number of times in seeking a U.S. Civil Service job.

Rep. Don Bonior, D-Wash., the sponsor, said the preference "was meant as a readjustment tool" but that even with it, Vietnam veterans "cannot compete with the more experienced older veteran who enjoys lifetime preference."

Rep. Richard White, D-Tex., said he opposed any tinkering with the existing preference because that would break "a promise made to those who entered the armed services."

Members voting "yes" favored sweetening the veterans' preference for many Vietnam-era vets to the detriment of pre-Vietnam vets. Bonior, Ford, Broadhead, Blanchard and Pursell voted "yes." Brockmeyer voted "nay."

CARTER VETO Failed, 191 for and

206 against, to achieve the two-thirds majority necessary to overturn President Carter's veto of the \$37 billion defense procurement bill for fiscal 1979. Since it takes only one house of Congress to sustain a veto, there will be no Senate vote on the issue. Carter based his veto on the bill's inclusion of \$2 billion for construction of a nuclear aircraft carrier which he said the nation does not need.

Rep. Robert Silks, D-Fla., a supporter of overriding, said the veto "may be the final action in the gradual surrender of America's leadership of the free world. Killing the carrier may help to kill America's hope for a non-communist world in the future."

Rep. George Mahon, D-Tex., an opponent of overriding, said: "This is a day we should support the President, not take away the influence he should wield as President of the U.S. If war comes with the Soviet Union, the difference between 12 and 13 carriers won't matter."

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

FEDERAL JUDGES Passed, 43 for and 31 against, a bill (S 1423) establishing a procedure for examining charges that a federal judge is incompetent or guilty of gross misconduct. Federal judges have lifetime appointments and, since they can be unseated only by impeachment, there is virtually no watchdog over their performance.

The bill, which was sent to the House, would create a many-layered mechanism for screening and processing citizen complaints against federal judges. Judges so scrutinized would be federal district court judges, circuit judges, Supreme Court Justices, and court of claims, customs and patent judges. If an allegation made it to the end of the complaint process, a Court on Judicial Conduct and Disability could dismiss it or recommend to the House of Representatives that the judge be impeached or censured.

Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., a supporter, said: "As a result of its cumbersome nature, impeachment does not act as a real deterrent to misconduct on the bench."

Sen. Alan Cranston, D-Calif., an opponent, questioned the constitutionality of the bill: "I do not think that the Founding Father's concept of an independent federal judiciary serving on good behavior included a review of every complaint about some unpopular federal judge."

Senators voting "yes" favored the review procedure for federal judges.

Sen. Donald Riegle, D, voted "yes."

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

Use the following addresses for correspondence with members of Congress: Senators—Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Representatives—House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

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Special college voting leaves Johnson in seat

Lila Johnson of Huntington Woods will probably go down in history as Oakland Community College's (OCC) only triple crown winner.

She didn't play in the major leagues or even run in the Kentucky Derby. Preach or Belmont Stakes, but she survived her third vote count since early June and will keep her seat on the OCC Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Johnson soundly defeated her closest opponent, Dennis Rogers of Troy, in a special extended election in two Rochester precincts. The election took about two weeks, and results were tabulated in Rochester Monday evening.

Mrs. Johnson, a 14-year board veteran, picked up 397 new votes in the election to Rogers' 266. The remainder of the 718 votes cast were split among six other candidates.

Over the course of the three-month-long election, Mrs. Johnson unofficially polled 10,369 votes to Rogers' 10,326.

She was ruled the victor in a June 12 election, in which she nudged Rogers

from his seat by 33 votes. She later survived a recount. Sandra Ritter, of Waterford Township, the top vote-getter in the June 12 election, keeps her seat.

THE ELECTION extension was ordered by Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Richard D. Kuhn after Rogers' attorneys showed that Rochester election officials mistakenly allowed as many as 80 Macomb County voters to vote in the OCC election.

While the Macomb voters were eligible to vote in the Rochester school district election, they were not eligible to vote in the OCC election.

BOTH CANDIDATES scrambled for votes. The new campaign came complete with mailings, telephone canvassing and door-to-door campaigning.

Both candidates sought county-wide endorsements and Rogers managed to gain the nods of State Rep. Melvin L. Larsen (R-Oxford), State Sen. Donald Bishop (R-Avon Township) and State Sen. Kerry Kammer (D-Pontiac).

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