

Pledges to defend Taiwan fail to win support

Here's how area Members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes March 8 through March 14.

HOUSE

BUDGET CUTS — The House approved, 335 for and 73 against, a one-year budget of \$167,500 for a special six-person task force of the Education and Labor Committee. The unit deals with legislation affecting private aid to public pension plans. Although it is the equivalent of a subcommittee, the task force's budget is in addition to the Education and Labor Committee's \$225 million annual budget.

Rep. Frank Thompson, D-N.J., a supporter, said the task force is "the only unit in existence" that can answer congressmen's questions about the complex pension laws.

Rep. William Dancoff, R-Calif., an opponent, noted that the \$167,500 outlay is 53 percent above last year's task force budget, and questioned "why we should vote to approve an increase of a magnitude of better than 50 percent in just one year for this committee."

Members voting "nay" opposed the expenditure for the special task force.

Reps. Carl Pussell, R-Plymouth, David Bonior, D-Mount Clemens, William Ford, D-Taylor, William Broadhead, D-Detroit, James Blanchard, D-Pleasant Ridge and William Broomfield, R-Bloomfield Twp., voted "yes."

TAIWAN — The House rejected, 149 for and 221 against, an amendment to establish an unofficial defense treaty between the U.S. and Taiwan. The pact would have, in effect, continued the formal Mutual Defense Treaty with Taiwan that will expire as a result of the U.S. establishing diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China. This vote came during consideration of the bill (HR2479) establishing a new basis for Taiwan-U.S. relations. The bill was later passed and sent to conference with the Senate.

Rep. Ken Kramer, R-Colo., the sponsor, said his amendment states "that a threat to the security of Taiwan constitutes a threat to the peace and stability of the West Pacific Area and hence to the interests of the U.S."

Rep. Stephen Solarz, D-N.Y., an opponent, said the amendment would "scuttle the entire policy of normalization with Peking and that it adopted U.S. Ambassador Leonard Woodcock "would be given his walking papers the day after news of it had arrived in Peking."

Members voting "yes" favored the strongest possible U.S. defense commitment to Taiwan.

Bonior, Ford, Broadhead, Blanchard and Broomfield voted "nay." Pussell did not vote.

QUEMOY AND MATSU — The House defeated, 146 for and 256 against, an amendment to define the islands of Quemoy and Matsu as part of Taiwan in the bill (HR2479; see above vote) establishing a new basis for Taiwan-U.S. relations. The effect of this amendment would have been to commit the U.S. to support the two islands to the same extent it will support Taiwan.

Rep. Mickey Edwards, R-Okla., the sponsor, said: "To exclude the two islands of Quemoy and Matsu from this act is an open invitation to Peking to attack these islands without so much as a suggestion from us that it might be of some concern to the U.S."

Rep. Clement Zablocki, D-Wisc., an

Roll Call Report



opponent, asked: "Does the U.S. want to regard the shelling of Quemoy and Matsu as of 'grave security' to our country?"

Members voting "yes" wanted the U.S. to regard the future of Quemoy and Matsu as vital to the U.S. national interest.

Bonior, Ford, Broadhead, Blanchard and Broomfield voted "nay." Pussell did not vote.

SENATE

TAIWAN — Rejected, 42 for and 50 against, an amendment stating U.S. readiness to use military force to protect Taiwan from attack by Peking. It was proposed to S245, a bill defining how Taiwan and the U.S. will relate to one another now that the U.S. has established diplomatic relations with

Peking. The bill was later passed and sent to conference with the House.

Sen. Charles Percy, R-Ill., the sponsor, said the amendment was "essential because we have a responsibility to make to the People's Republic of China a clear statement of U.S. interests in a peaceful settlement of the Taiwan issue."

Sen. Claiborne Pell, D-R.I., an opponent, said the U.S. "cannot have it both ways. We cannot... establish relations with one government of China and retain a security commitment to another part of China."

Senators voting "yes" wanted the equivalent of an unofficial defense treaty with Taiwan.

Sens. Donald Riegle, D, and Carl Levin, D, voted "nay."

BUDGET CUTS — The Senate killed,

42 for and 55 against, a move to spend \$33.6 million in health money. The \$33.6 million is to be cut out of the fiscal 1979 budget for various nursing, medical, veterinarian and dental school programs. This vote was an attempt to keep the already-appropriated money from being "rescinded" from the current budget.

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., a supporter of the move to spend the money, said what was at issue was the ability of the federal government to uphold its financial commitment to the various health schools.

Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., an opponent, said: "We have to send a signal to the American people and to the entire world that we in the Senate are serious about spending restraint in these extremely inflation-ridden times."

Senators voting "yes" opposed the budget cut.

Riegle voted "yes." Levin voted "nay."

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