

Where to dump nuclear wastes up to energy dept.

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes July 24-30.

HOUSE

BILLY CARTER — The house voted, 233-139, to uphold a temporary ban by the Democratic leadership on the one-minute speeches that some members customarily make at the beginning of the day's session. The effect of the party-line vote was to silence that morning Republican who had been making brief floor speeches on the Billy Carter affair.

Members voting yea wanted to muzzle GOP criticism.

William Ford, D-Taylor, William Brodhead, D-Detroit, and James Blanchard, D-Pleasant Ridge, voted yea.

Reps. Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth, and William Broomfield, R-Birmingham, voted nay.

ACTION GRANTS — By a vote of 136-262, the House rejected an amendment to cut fiscal 1981 spending for the Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) program from \$675 million to \$500 million. The amendment was offered to an appropriation bill later passed and sent to the Senate. UDAG money goes to cities for economic development ventures. Private companies often are directly helped by the grants.

Rep. Bill Frenzel, R-Minn., a supporter of the \$175 million cut, said: "UDAG is one of those grant programs which gets bigger and bigger because more and more people can get their fingers into free money."

Rep. Edward Boland, D-Mass., an opponent of the cut, said: "UDAG has widespread support throughout the country and widespread support in this Congress... this is a program that works."

Members voting yea favored spending \$500 million rather than \$675 million on the UDAG program in the next fiscal year.

Broomfield voted yea. Bonior, Ford, Brodhead and Blanchard voted nay.

Pursell did not vote.

roll call report

objection. The bill was sent to the House.

Presently, spent uranium fuel rods are stored on-site at nuclear power plants. The bill offers a 10-20-year storage solution. Meanwhile, Congress and the administration are exploring permanent disposal means.

Supporter Warren Magnuson, D-Wash., said the bill "will promote the storage of high-level waste on a regional basis and reduce the chances that Washington or some other state will have to be the site of a national storage facility."

Opponent Charles Percy, R-Ill., said the bill did not go far enough. "In 38 years, 7,700 metric tons of highly radioactive waste have been accumulating... and never has the federal government faced the issue with adequate concern," he said.

Senators voting yea favored the bill. Riegle and Levin voted yea.

SENATE

NUCLEAR WASTE — The Senate passed, 68-7, a bill directing the U.S. Department of Energy to build facilities for temporarily storing the radioactive wastes of nuclear power plants. These "away from reactor" (AFR) disposal sites would be selected later by the government. A chosen state could veto the federal decision only if one house of Congress voted to back up its

plan for nuclear wastes. The amendment sought to require most nuclear power plants to continue storing their own radioactive wastes until the government provides a permanent means of disposal. Utilities could use an AFR site only if the alternative were shutting down the power plant. The nuclear power industry favored killing the amendment, and a Ralph Nader energy group supported the amendment.

Sen. Bennett Johnston, D-La., a supporter of killing the amendment, said: "If this amendment passes, the nuclear industry in this country is going to be in deep trouble and you will probably have to shut down reactors."

Sen. Alan Simpson, R-Wyo., who co-sponsored the amendment, said he wants to limit away-from-reactor disposal because it will involve "substantial costs" to the Treasury, and because "the more AFRs there are, the more transportation of spent fuel there will be through many of our states."

Senators voting nay wanted to require most utilities to continue storing their own radioactive wastes.

Riegle and Levin voted nay.



United on the party

Robert E. Nederlander of Birmingham is a Carter delegate, and Joanne Smith of Farmington Hills is a Kennedy delegate, but they agree on support of the Democratic Party as it prepares for its national convention in New York City next week. Nederlander, an attorney and theater magnate, is a University of Michigan regent. Mrs. Smith, a former mayor pro tem, was a 1972 McGovern delegate. (Staff photo by Bill Brester)

GASOLINE RATIONING — The House rejected, 205-209, an attempt to keep the administration's standby gasoline rationing plan from becoming law. The vote means that a president can now order rationing if gasoline supplies fall at least 20 percent below those of a recent 12-month base period. During the 1972 Arab oil embargo, the shortage was about 11 percent. The ration-

ing plan would limit the average motorist to 35 to 50 gallons monthly, depending on where he or she lives.

Rep. Clarence Brown, R-Ohio, a supporter of killing the plan, said: "It will cost \$2 billion per year and will require tens of thousands of bureaucrats."

Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., replied that "the only thing worse than a rationing plan in the midst of a crisis is no rationing plan in the midst of a crisis..."

Members voting nay wanted the standby rationing plan to take effect. Pursell and Broomfield voted yea. Brodhead and Blanchard voted nay. Bonior and Ford did not vote.

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