

No hazardous waste policy until after polls close

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes in the days before the current recess.

roll call report

HOUSE

HAZARDOUS WASTES — The House rejected, 182-247, a bill to set a federal policy governing the transportation of hazardous wastes over the nation's highways. The bill has been passed by the Senate. The most disputed provision would delay for six months — until mid-1981 — Department of Transportation rules, setting forth specific routes over which radioactive wastes from nuclear power plants can be transported. Most members voting against the bill wanted those rules to go into effect next January.

Rep. Geraldine Ferraro, D-N.Y., a supporter, said the DOT rules should be delayed so that the new Congress can consider the issue. She feared that without the delay her New York City constituency might be jeopardized by waste shipments.

Rep. James Broyhill, R-N.C., said "it would not be in the public interest to delay . . . these regulations which, of course, do have the purpose of increasing the safety in transporting these hazardous waste materials."

Members voting yea favored passage of the bill coupled with a six-months delay in implementing the DOT rules.

Reps. Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth, David Bonior, D-Mt. Clemens, James Blanchard, D-Placanton Ridge, voted yea.

Rep. William Broomfield, R-Birmingham, voted nay.

Reps. William Ford, D-Taylor, and William Brodhead, D-Detroit, did not vote.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE — By a vote of 276-117, the House adopted and sent to the Senate the conference report on a bill to help victims of domestic violence. The bill would cost \$65 million over three years. In part, it would fund shelters for battered spouses and children and underwrite counseling to curb violence in the home. Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., a supporter, said the bill "will not set up a huge federal bureaucracy" because it would funnel money through state governments and help to sustain programs already in existence.

Rep. Ken Kramer, R-Colo., an opponent, said the bill represents "a dangerous trend" of "federal involvement in areas traditionally reserved as family matters to state and local jurisdictions."

Members voting yea favored enactment of a new domestic violence program at the federal level.

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

A CONGRESSMAN EXPELLED — The House voted, 376-30, to oust Rep. Michael Myers, D-Pa., from the Congress. Myers was convicted in August

on charges stemming from his acceptance of a \$50,000 bribe from an FBI agent posing as an Arab sheik. He became the first House member ever expelled as a result of corrupt acts.

Rep. Charles Bennett, D-Fla., a supporter of expulsion, said "the integrity of the House of Representatives is at stake, an institution which is not only important for our country but for mankind."

Myers, in his own defense, said that when a colleague votes to expel "it will have the same effect as hitting the button if I were strapped in an electric chair in this well."

Members voting yea wanted Myers thrown out of Congress.

Pursell, Sawyer, Bonior, Brodhead, Blanchard, and Broomfield voted yea.

Ford voted nay.

SENATE

CETA MONEY — The Senate failed 38-42, to prevent a \$900 million cut in the fiscal 1981 Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) appropriation. The cut was coupled with increased

spending for youth employment and training. Later, on a non-record vote, the Senate softened the cut to \$550 million. The votes came during debate on HJ Res 610, an appropriations bill that later became law.

Sen. Harrison Williams, D-N.J., who voted to prevent the cut, said "this is no time to be cutting into the bone of a jobs program that is specifically intended for use as an anti-recession tool."

Sen. Lawton Chiles, D-Fla., sponsor of the cut, said the country needs "emphasis on training and upgrading of lower skilled workers, particularly the disadvantaged youth. . . . We do not need more local government employees, which is what (CETA) is now providing."

Senators voting nay wanted to cut CETA outlays. Sen. Donald Riegle and Carl Levin, both Democrats, voted yea.

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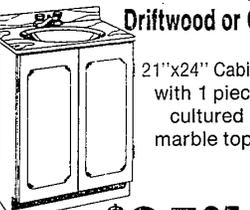
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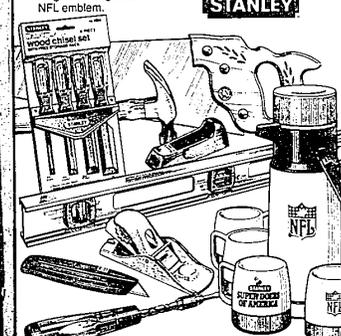


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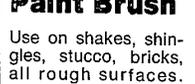
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What winter brings most often unwanted

The coming of cool fall weather sends many animals scurrying to find a cozy place to spend the winter. For some homeowners, this scramble for winter shelter means a host of unwelcome houseguests.

Glenn Dudderar, extension wildlife specialist at Michigan State University, says the most common animals to enter homes looking for winter shelter are squirrels, bats, rats and mice.

AN OPENING doesn't have to be very large for a mouse to squeeze through, he points out. Even a rat needs only a half-inch opening, and a bat can squirm through a 1 1/2-inch hole.

An opening that's letting animals into the house is also letting heated or cooled air out, he noted. To keep the animals out and to save energy, seal up those openings.

But first, he advised getting rid of those that have already entered to avoid sealing the critters inside.

Bats are probably the least critical problem but the one that most people are least likely to tolerate, simply because they tend to be afraid of bats. Bats wintering in an attic or the top of a garage won't do much damage. Their droppings and urine can make a smelly mess, however, and bats sometimes carry disease organisms.

CONTROLLING RODENTS in the home is a three-step process.

First, eliminate all possible food sources. This means cleaning up food spills in storage areas, placing all foods in cans or glass jars, putting pet food away as soon as the pet has eaten, cleaning plates and washing dishes immediately after meals, removing all garbage from the kitchen, and so on.

Strict sanitation is necessary for the second step to succeed, Dudderar said.

"No rat that can eat people food out of the wastebasket is going to go for rat bait," he said. "But if there's nothing else for him to eat, he'll have to either leave or go after the bait."

TWO GENERAL CLASSES of poison baits are available — single-dose, highly toxic materials that kill the animal at once, and multiple-dose anticoagulants.

In the home, the multiple-dose poisons are the safer choice, because one accidental consumption by a human or a pet is not likely to be lethal. The single-dose poisons can kill any warm-blooded animal, including a human being, that consumes them.

The relative safety of the anticoagulant baits doesn't mean you should use them carelessly, Dudderar said. Place the baits where only the rodents can get to them — behind appliances, in the back corners of cupboards, inside cold air ducts, wherever you have reason to believe the rodents lurk or run.

Bear in mind that most dogs and cats are great scavengers. Even if well fed, they'll eat anything they come upon that strikes them as edible. Likewise, small children put anything into their mouths that will fit. So place your baits where curious explorers can't get to them.