

## roll call report

Here's how area members of Congress were re-elected on major roll call votes prior to the July 4th recess.

## House

**The Reagan Budget:** The House voted 217-211 to follow GOP marching orders that will cause the most fundamental change of the federal government since World War II. Once the House and Senate agree on final spending, the "budget reconciliation" measure will put into effect at least \$35 billion worth of fiscal year 1982 cuts in some 250 federal programs, with defense spending the only major area left uncut.

The measure is revolutionary because it forces permanent changes in scores of laws — a rewrite that the 100-plus congressional subcommittees and committees could not have accomplished on their own. The Democratic alternative killed by this vote also would have saved tens of billions in fiscal year 1982, but it stopped short of major changes in enabling legislation.

Supporter Delbert Latta, R-Ohio, said "the spending of the federal government is out of control" and noted that the \$340-billion annual budget threshold crossed in the Kennedy Administration has risen to \$495 billion today.

Opponent Jim Wright, D-Tex., said the GOP plan will "cause egregious injuries to many millions of innocent Americans who have nobody to stand between them and those injuries except the members of this house."

Members voting "yes" favored the GOP rather than the Democratic attack on runaway federal spending.

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

Reps. David Bonior, D-Detroit, William Ford, D-Taylor, William Brodhead, D-Detroit, and James Blanchard, D-Mount Pleasant, voted "no."

## Senate

**Budget Cuts:** By a vote of 80-15, the Senate passed its version of the budget reconciliation measure. The bill sent to conference with the House mandates \$39.6 billion in fiscal year 1982 spending cuts as well as reductions for other fiscal years. Reconciliation is an interim disciplinary step between last May's enactment of the fiscal year 1982 budget blueprint and upcoming action on specific spending bills.

Supporter Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., said the bill "will cut in half the rate at which federal spending has been growing" while providing for "real growth in spending for national defense, thereby reversing a dangerous decline in that area."

Opponent Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., maintained that while Americans "want better economy in government" they do not want "massive reductions in income security and retirement programs... lowering of minimum standards for health care, for shelter and for feeding programs... for education and job training assistance."

distance, for transportation systems, for help to the handicapped and the elderly and for energy and economic development programs."

Senators voting "yes" supported the GOP-authored budget-cutting plan.

Democratic Sens. Carl Levin and Donald Riegle voted "no."

"Waste and Abuse:" By

a vote of 44-52 the Senate rejected an amendment to require deeper fiscal year 1982 cuts in what federal agencies can spend on travel and consultants' fees. The spending bill already contained cuts of \$550 million for travel and \$540 million in outlays for consultants. This amendment sought additional cuts of \$200 million and \$500 million respectively.

Sponsor Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz., said "the only sure-fire way I know to make a dent in the waste and abuse in both travel and consultant services is to cut these funds and cut them sharply."

Senators voting "yes" opposed still deeper fiscal year 1982 cuts in travel and consultants' outlays.

Levin and Riegle voted "yes."

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## Private \$\$ back SEMTA stop

Groundbreaking ceremonies for a new SEMTA bus station at the Northland Center were held recently, marking the first investment of private capital in public transit facilities in southeast Michigan.

A portion of the \$50-capacity station's cost is being borne by the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, which owns Northland Center. The company paid for the road leading

to the station; the station itself was built with federal and state funds.

On a typical weekday, 8,000 to 10,000 people ride buses to and from Northland, according to SEMTA.

SEMTA also has rights to expand to an adjoining parking lot for potential future charters and park-and-ride service, a spokesman explained.

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