

roll call report

Only Broomfield backs Reagan on 2 'freeze' votes

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes April 11-15.

HOUSE

By a vote of 219 for and 195 against, the House kept a freeze on nuclear arms buildups as the top priority of the resolution (HJ Res 13) directing the U.S. and Soviet governments to engage in talks aimed at achieving a "mutual and verifiable" halt in their nuclear arms race.

The vote derailed a pro-Reagan administration amendment to make reductions in arsenals the top priority, followed by a freeze. The White House argues a freeze at present levels would guarantee Soviet superiority.

HJ Res 13 awaits a final vote. Members voting yes wanted a freeze to be the first priority of HJ Res 13. Voting yes: Carl Parnell, R-Plymouth, William Ford, D-Taylor and Sander Levin, D-Southfield.

Voting no: William Broomfield, R-Birmingham.

Not voting: Dennis Hietel, D-Detroit. In debate, supporter Les Autbelin, D-One, called the arms race "a runaway freight train" that must be stopped before it can be curtailed.

Opponent Ed Zschau, R-Calif., countered that arms talks "do not obey the

laws of physics," adding that the negotiators can easily discuss reductions and a freeze at the same time.

FREEZE — The House rejected, 190 for and 229 against, an amendment to the freeze resolution (above) which would have directed each superpower to discard two nuclear warheads for every new warhead it deploys.

Because it permitted the United States to modernize its arsenal, the pro-Reagan amendment would have eased administration fears that the freeze resolution would lock the United States into nuclear inferiority.

The amendment was opposed by most freeze advocates who felt modernization would escalate the arms race.

Reagan backer Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., said "any conservative who votes against this amendment is taking the risk of voting in favor of freezing the U.S. in inferiority."

Opponent Jim Wright, D-Tex., said the amendment got into areas suitable for the negotiating table, not the House floor. "Let us keep the freeze resolution" clear, simple and straightforward," he said.

Members voting yes wanted to tailor the freeze measure more to President Reagan's liking. Broomfield voted yes.

Voting no: Parnell, Hietel, Ford and Levin.

FORESTS — By a vote of 136 for and 257 against, the House rejected an amendment to cut nearly in half the pristine federal forest acreage to be protected by the California Wilderness Act of 1983 (HR 1437).

Defeat of the amendment left unchanged language to include some 2.3 million untouched acres in California in the national wilderness system. In addition to reducing that figure to 1.2 million, the amendment sought other changes advocated by commercial interests but opposed by environmentalists.

The bill, later passed and sent to the Senate, defines the future use of some 6.5 million acres owned by the U.S. Forest Service in California not yet committed to conservation or development. In part, it frees up 4.3 million acres for logging and other limited development.

Supporter Gene Chapple, R-Calif., said "people in my area simply cannot afford a bill which will drastically reduce logging and sawmilling jobs in timber towns already reeling from unemployment rates as high as 37 percent."

Opponent John Selberling, D-Ohio, said "not only will few timber jobs be

lost by this bill, if any, but we are also protecting the fishing industry jobs by keeping these lands in wilderness."

smaller California wilderness area. Broomfield voted yes.

Voting no: Parnell, Hietel, Ford and Levin.

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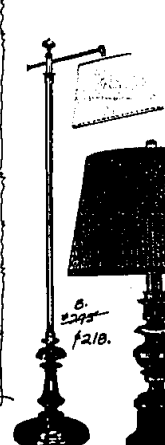
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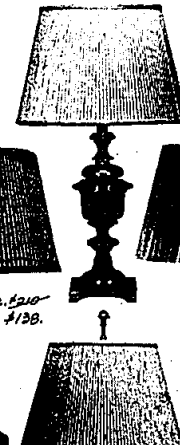
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