

Levin, Broomfield back EPA budget boost

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes June 2-8.

HOUSE

EPA By a vote of 200 for and 167 against, the House raised the Environmental Protection Agency's fiscal 1984 budget by \$220 million over the recommendation of the Democratic-controlled House Appropriations Committee.

This raised 1984 EPA spending to \$1.3 billion, which is \$350 million more than requested by President Reagan and equivalent to the pre-Reagan EPA budget of 1981.

The vote occurred during debate on an appropriations bill (HR 3111) that later was sent to the Senate.

Supporter Timothy Wirth, D-Colo., complained that for the past two years the House has acquiesced in massive, severe budget cuts at the EPA.

Opponent Bill Frenzel, R-Minn., said ad management has been the EPA's forte and that "my constituents are tired of Congress tossing their money at problems."

Members voting yes wanted a 1984 EPA budget that is about 33 percent higher than the president wants and 20 percent higher than recommended by the Appropriations Committee.

Voting yes: Dennis Hertel, D-Detroit, William Ford, D-Taylor, Sander Levin, D-Southfield and William Broomfield, D-Birmingham.

Carl Pursell did not vote.

CLEAN AIR: The House voted, 227 for and 135 against, to prevent the EPA from penalizing any of the 213 counties in 180 congressional districts that, due mainly to auto pollution, are violating the Clean Air Act.

Former EPA Administrator Anne

Burford had threatened sanctions such as cutting off highway grants, saying she was obligated to enforce the law as written by Congress.

However, many lawmakers saw her threat as a veiled attempt to pressure Congress to weaken the Clean Air Act.

The vote occurred as the House debated HR 3133 (see preceding vote).

Supporter Henry Waxman, D-Calif., said the House must block "the Administration's effort to push through a toothless Clean Air Act."

Opponent John Dingell, D-Mich., said "this vote is a vote on the environment. If you vote (yes) you are voting for dirty air."

Member voting yes wanted to block EPA sanctions against counties now violating the Clean Air Act.

Voting yes: Levin.

Voting no: Hertel, Ford and Broomfield.

Not voting: Pursell.

PRESIDENT: By a vote of 244 for and 169 against, the House adopted an amendment to cut about \$910,000 earmarked for ex-presidents Carter, Ford and Nixon in Fiscal 1984.

The amendment keeps Secret Service protection and their annual Pension of \$80,000 each. But it bans funding for staffs, office and scores of additional expenses taxpayers now pick up for their former presidents.

The cut was made in HR 3191, a spending bill later sent back to the House Appropriations Committee.

Sponsor Andrew Jacobs, D-Ind., said taxpayers should not pay "for offices and for staffs and for plant watering services and for magazines and a whole cornucopia of freebies" that most other private citizens must buy on their own.

Opponent John Myers, R-Ind., said he favored creation of "a commission to make a study of this and find out what

roll call report

is reasonable and what is not reasonable for the taxpayers to pick up for our former presidents."

Members voting yes wanted taxpayers to provide only Secret Service protection and pensions for ex-presidents.

Voting yes: Pursell and Levin.

Voting no: Hertel, Ford and Broomfield.

ABORTION: By a vote of 226 for and 162 against, the House adopted an

amendment prohibiting federal workers from using their government health insurance to pay for abortions except when the mother's life is at stake.

The language was attached to HR 3191 and caused the bill to be defeated and return to the Appropriations Committee.

Members voting yes favored the anti-abortion language.

Voting yes: Hertel and Broomfield.

Voting no: Pursell, Ford and Levin.

SENATE

MONEY: The Senate approved, 55 for and 34 against, an \$8.5 billion U.S. contribution to the International Monetary Fund effort to help the world's developing countries stay afloat.

This is the U.S. share of \$40 billion in replenishment money the IMF says it needs, partly for countries such as Mexico and Brazil that could set off worldwide chaos by defaulting on countless billions they owe private bankers.

Critics said the bill also is a bail-out for imprudent banks, even with its requirement that federal regulators more

diligently police U.S. banks that lend overseas. The bill (S 695) was sent to the House.

Supporter Mack Mattingly, R-Ga., said he "reluctantly" favored the bill "given the reliance of American economic growth on global economic recovery."

Opponent Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, said "the U.S. must not buckle under to the threats and idle claims from debt-ridden countries and the international banking community."

Senators voting yes supported the U.S. contribution to the IMF.

Carl Levin, D, and Donald Riegle, D, voted yes.

Speak out at fair

Future orators and actors will be offered a platform for speaking at the Michigan State Fair in August.

The Youth Public Speaking Contest begins at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 30, in the Agriculture Building. Deadline for entry is Monday, Aug. 1.

To qualify, contestants must be high school students during the 1983 calendar year. Speeches should be four to seven minutes long. Topics are listed on the contest entry form.

Contestants will be asked to prepare speeches on two topics.

Complete rules and entry forms are available from Carol Culham, Michigan Exposition and Fairgrounds, 1120 W. State Fair Ave., Detroit 48203. She can be reached at 588-1000.

Following the public speaking contest, the Michigan 4-H Performing Arts Troupe will present a program of song, dance and drama selections. This professional-caliber group is made up of 77 young people from across the state.

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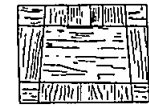
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