

Congressmen split on delay of federal pay hike

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes Oct. 30-31.

HOUSE
FEDERAL PAY — The House voted, 245 for and 176 against, to delay for three months a 4 percent pay hike for federal workers that had been set for Oct. 1. This affected some 2.6 million civil servants. It did not affect military salaries.

The amendment was attached to a budget-cutting measure that also delayed next year's cost-of-living hike in civilian and military pensions. The pension hike would be postponed from June to December. The bill (HR 4184) was sent to the Senate.

Supporter James Jones, D-Ola., noted the delay would save \$1.8 billion. He said "federal employees, like most everyone else... have to sacrifice if we are going to get these deficits down to size."

Opponent Michael Barnes, D-Md., said, "Here we go once again, attempting basically to humiliate federal workers."

Members voting yes wanted to delay the 1985 pay hike for civil servants until Jan. 1, 1984.

Voting yes: Carl Parnell, R-Plymouth, Sander Levin, D-Southfield, and William Broomfield, R-Birmingham. Voting no: Dennis Hertel, D-Detroit and William Ford, D-Taylor.

OREGON — By a vote of 297 for and 123 against, the House overrode President Reagan's veto of a bill giving six families in Oregon federal land that a

surveyor's error had led them to believe they already owned.

The families acquired nine parcels covering about three acres from a private developer in 1941. But it was later found to be federal property. The families have paid full taxes on the land, and this year Congress passed a bill (HR 1052) conveying it to them.

The president's veto message called the bill a bad precedent. The Senate also overrode the veto, and the bill now is law.

Supporter Morris Udall, D-Ariz., criticized the administration for taking "such a petty attitude toward the plight of these six families."

Opponent Manuel Lujan, R-N.M., said congressional sympathizers should dig into their own pockets to help the families and "not depend on the taxpayers to bail out your generosity."

Members voting yes wanted to override the veto. Voting yes: Hertel, Ford and Levin.

Voting no: Parnell and Broomfield.

AIRCRAFT — The House adopted, 219 for and 193 against, an amendment to spend an additional \$87 million on advanced radar and various aircraft. The money was added to the \$247 billion fiscal 1984 defense appropriations bill (HR 4185), which awaited a final vote.

The amendment will speed procurement of the AH-64 Apache attack helicopter, UH-60 Blackhawk transport

helicopter and C-12 twin-engine utility plane. It also provides extra money for a new airborne radar system known as JSTAR (Joint Surveillance and Target Attack Radar).

While the vote reflects traditional differences over Pentagon spending, it also involved a turf battle. The Defense Appropriations Subcommittee opposed the extra \$87 million, while many members of the Armed Services Committee favored it.

Members voting yes wanted to spend more for the aircraft and radar system.

Voting no were all local members: Parnell, Hertel, Ford, Levin and Broomfield.

SENATE

CLINCH RIVER — By a vote of 56 for and 40 against, the Senate cut off money for the Clinch River breeder reactor. This apparently ended an 11-year government effort to build a power plant that breeds more nuclear fuel than it consumes.

Its supporters said the Tennessee facility would help assure the nation's energy independence. Foes called the \$4.5 billion project a waste of money and said its technology would hasten the spread of nuclear weapons.

This vote killed a Clinch River survival plan consisting of a \$1.5 billion appropriation and Treasury guarantees needed to attract private financing. The overall bill (HR 3959) was headed

for final passage and conference with the House. Senators voting no wanted to continue construction of the Clinch River nuclear reactor.

Michigan's Carl Levin, D-voted yes. Donald Riegle, D, did not vote.

DRUGS — By a vote of 40 for and 53 against, the Senate failed to kill an amendment creating a Cabinet-level office to direct national policy against drug abuse and illegal drug trafficking.

As a result of the vote, \$1 million to establish the agency remained in a fiscal 1984 appropriations bill (HR 3959) that was headed for final passage and conference with the House.

Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., who voted to kill the amendment, said it would invite a presidential veto of the appropriations bill. The president last year vetoed legislation to create a similar drug agency, calling it unnecessary bureaucracy.

Joseph Biden, D-De., who voted to retain the \$1 million outlay, complained that at present 15 federal agencies share responsibility for fighting drugs.

Senators voting no wanted to create a Cabinet-level drug agency. Levin voted no. Riegle did not vote.

CENSORSHIP — The Senate adopted, 56 for and 34 against, an amendment delaying until at least April 15, 1984, a new presidential directive im-

posing lifetime censorship on approximately 100,000 current federal officials who handle especially sensitive information.

The directive requires them to submit their writings to pre-publication review of government censors, both during and after their government service. The amendment was most concerned with the impact on officials who have returned to private life.

The delay was included in S 1342, a 1984 State Department spending bill that later was passed and sent to conference with the House.

Supporter Daniel Moynihan, D-N.Y., said that in addition to "stifling free speech," the censorship would prevent national leaders from writing enlightening memoirs.

Opponent Jeremiah Denton, R-Ala., said the president must "fulfill his constitutional duty to safeguard the national security by safeguarding classified information."

Senators voting no supported the president's imposition of lifetime censorship on U.S. officials who deal with highly-sensitive information. Levin voted no.

Riegle voted yes.

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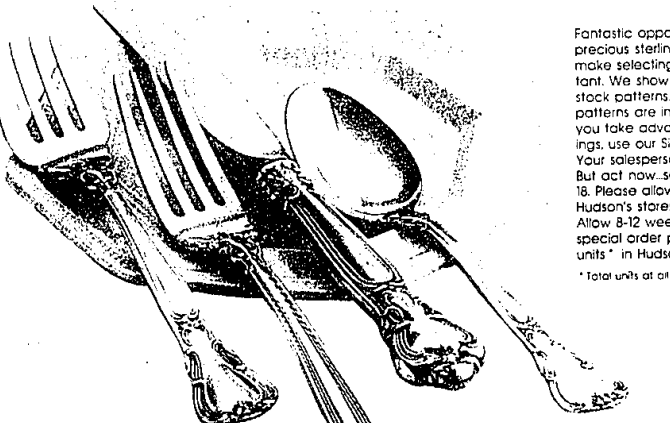
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