

# Dems back farm aid; GOP calls it 'bailout'

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes Feb. 27 through March 8.

## HOUSE

**RELIEF** — By a vote 255 for and 168 against, the U.S. House of Representatives passed and sent to President

Reagan a bill providing hundreds of millions of dollars in emergency credit relief to hard-pressed farmers, as well as \$175 million in non-food aid to African nations ravaged by drought and famine.

Area Democrats all supported the measure. Area Republicans opposed it. Reagan quickly vetoed the bill (HR 1098) because of its farm provisions.

He called it a "multibillion-dollar bailout... for bankers and farmers" and said members supporting it lacked the will to resist the pleas of special interests and attack the federal deficit.

The veto went unchallenged by Democratic leaders.

The bill was targeted chiefly at financially troubled Midwestern grain farmers. It provided 1985 crop loans in advance of spring planting, authorized \$100 million in interest subsidies, and increased federal guarantees of private farm loans from \$850 million to 2.5 billion.

Supporter John Dingell, D-Mich., noted that Reagan is advocating a defense budget of \$314 billion while calling the farm bill a budget-buster. This illustrates "the misguided priorities of this Administration," Dingell said.

Opponent Robert Michel, R-Ill., said needy farmers could get adequate financial relief from a \$650 million pool of emergency loan guarantees already approved by the Administration.

Members voting yes favored the relief bill. Voting yes: Dennis Hertz, D-Detroit, William Ford, D-Taylor, Sander Levin, D-Southfield.

Voting no: Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth.

## Outdoors, it's season for shows, maple syrup

When it's too mushy to ice-fish, too cold to lake-fish, too late to hunt rabbits and too early to canoe, what's an outdoors person to do? Plenty!

• Look in on the Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishing Association's spring show Sunday, March 17, in the Dearborn Civic Center, Michigan at Greenfield. See tackle displays, movies, fly-tying clinics, and expert speakers for \$2 admission from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• Bone up on the Great Lakes at the East Michigan Environmental Action Council's public forum at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 18, in the Bloomfield Township Public Library, 1099 Lone Pine Road. It will be the first of five EMEAC events. Guest speaker will be Lee Solis, co-director of the environmental policy program at Northwestern University. Issues will include water diversion, toxic contamination and ecosystem management. It's free.

• Circle March 22-24 on your calendar. The Michigan Wildlife Art Festival will be held in the Southfield Civic Center, 28000 Evergreen, and feature

## outdoors

competitions for the state waterfowl hunting stamp and trout-salmon stamp.

• Learn how fearless pioneers made children's toys 1-2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 16, at Independence Oaks County Park, Sashabaw Road 2 1/2 miles north of I-75, near Clarkston. Naturalists Candy Garbarz and Kathleen Dougherty will demonstrate how pioneers and Indians crafted toys from wood and other natural materials. It costs \$2.50 for vehicle admission to the park (\$4 for non-Oakland residents) and \$2 for materials.

• Watch maple syrup in the making at Kensington Metropark's farm center on Saturdays and Sundays in March from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. It's free, and no advance registration is required. The farm center is at the north end of the metropark near the Milford Road gate.

## Cabaret evening benefits trail

Bob Fosse, Fiddler! Al and bass player John Clonca are part of a Cabaret Evening sponsored by Oakland Parks Foundation. Comedian Bruce Garish, with his Al Kalline and Ernie Harwell impressions, will also be featured at the Tuesday, March 19, event in White Lake Oaks Golf Course.

Doors open at 7 p.m. with music and entertainment beginning at 8 p.m. Beer, wine and pretzels are included in the ticket.

\$50 for patrons. The contribution is tax deductible with proceeds visiting the All-Visitor Trail at Independence Oaks County Park in Clarkston and Oakland Parks Foundation.

The All-Visitor Trail will provide access for the physically impaired (or anyone) who wishes to enjoy a short nature walk. Funds will be used to build a resting area with benches and a wooden deck and to purchase audio equipment.

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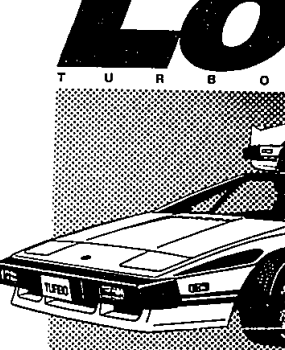
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## rollcall report

William Broomfield, R-Birmingham.

**CREDIT** — The House passed, 294 for and 118 against, a bill to appropriate \$1 billion as backing for increased loan guarantees approved as part of the farm relief package (above).

The bill (HR 1189) also funded an enlargement of the Farmers Home Administration staff and a study of farm export problems. Although it was sent to the Senate, it became moot when President Reagan successfully vetoed the relief legislation.

Supporter Vic Fazio, D-Calif., said

"We must help the agricultural community restructure its entire debt load, so the good farmers can bring their debt payments below the level of their cash-flow."

Opponent Beau Boulter, R-Texas, said that because it bails out inefficient farmers "this Band-aid will never get the job done, and I cannot support it."

Members voting yes favored the \$1 million emergency farm appropriation.

Voting yes: Democrats Hertz, William Ford, Levin.

Voting no: Republicans Pursell and Broomfield.

## SENATE

**FARMERS** — By a vote of 62 for and 38 against, the Senate passed the same emergency farm aid and African relief bill (HR 1098; above) that later was passed by the House and vetoed by President Reagan.

Supporter John Melcher, D-Mont., said "we are under very trying times... emergency times for over 200,000 farm borrowers."

Opponent William Armstrong, R-Colo., said "the solution to the farm problem (and) a whole host of problems plaguing the nation is to reduce government spending."

Senators voting yes favored the emergency farm aid legislation. Michigan Democrats Carl Levin and Donald Riegle voted yes.

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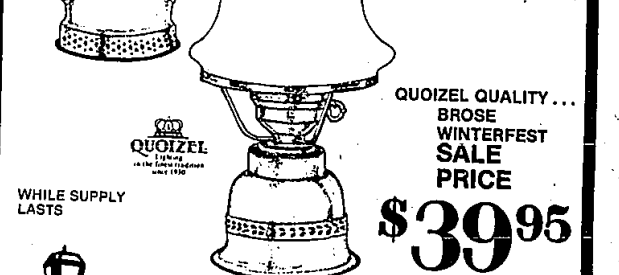
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