Area reps vote party line against aiding Contras

By Teri Banas stolf writer

U.S. representatives representing southern Oak-ind County voted 2-1 along party lines against resident Reagan's proposed \$100 million aid ackage to Contra rebel fighters in Nicaragua. The vote was 222-210.

Democrats Dennis Hertel of Harper Woods and Sander Levin of Southfield opposed the president's

proposal.
William Broomfield of Birmingham, ranking Republican on the Foreign Affairs Committee, supported the president.

supported the president.

LEVIN'S SPOKESMAN in the Detroit area, David Plawecki, said that the congressman believes military aid is not justified at this time.

Levin questions the "level of threat" posed to the United States by the Communist-backed Sandinista government and questions whether heavy U.S. financial support "Is justified when compared to cuts in domestic areas," he said.

Plawecki also suggested that the Contras" humanitarian" record is suspect and therefore not deserving of U.S. support.

Plawecki in Levin's office said a taily of their telephone calls was 102-80 against sending military aid to Niccragua.

Levin's district includes Southfield and Lathrup.

HERTEL, WHOSE 1th District includes part of Troy, said he opposes the \$100 million aid package because, he fears it may lead to American lighter involvement in that Central American country.

"We're all opposed to the Sandinista govern-ment's denial of freedoms to the people there, but our allies have opposed military ald and want to try to press for diplomatle (solutions)," Hertel said.

A member of the House Armed Services Com-mittee, Hertel questioned Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger on the issue recently and said he was dissalisfied with the answers.

"They couldn't tell us what the military objectives were," he said. "They couldn't even tell us how they had spent the last \$27 million." (A year ago, Reagan won Congressional approval for that amount in "humanitarian" aid to Nicar-

BUT BROOMFIELD said. "I think the president is on the right track." Broomfield said he views the financial aid as an incentive to force the Sandinista regime to the conference table (or the first time in almost one

conference table for the first time in almost one lie pointed to the reported 7,000 military advisers from Bulgaria, Cuba and the PLO there, and the \$500 million in Soviet aid in recent years and it's obvious if we adm't do something, they the communists) will have free rein Broomfield — whose district includes Birmingham. Bloomfield Hills, Farmington, West Bloomfield and part of Troy — said be has received many constituent telephone calls since Reagan's Sunday night speach with Turner than 50 percent supporting the military aid package.

Roll Call Report

House seeks to curb polygraphs

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll-call votes dur-ing the week ending March 14.

HOUSE

POLYGRAPH TESTING — The House passed 236-173 a bill making it illegal for private employers to engage in polygraph, or lie-detector, testing of present and pro-

or lit-detector, testing or present and pro-spective employees.
Exempted would be: companies handling government intelligence material; certain pharmaceutical workers, and employees of day-care centers, nursing homes and elec-tric power companies.
Federal, state and boal governments also could legally administer lie-detector

new count regard aumminister de-operetter fests.

Richard Sheiby, D-Ala., sald polygraph tests "are flawed, not reliable. We should not play with this kind of thing; Let us protect our constitutional rights."

Bob Livingston, R-La., said the bill should be defeated as unwarranted intrusion into states 'rights.

Voting yes to outlaw most polygraph testing were: Deanis Hertel, D-Harper Woods, William Ford, D-Taylor, and Sander Levin, D-Southfield.

Voting no: Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth, and

Voting no: Carl Purseil, R-Plymouth, and William Broomfield, R-Birmingham.

REAGAN'S BUDGET — The House rejected President Reagan's proposed federal hudget for 1987 by a 312-12 vote.
Reagan's budget, which he sent to Congress in February, has been denounced on Capitol Hill, largely because it calls for robust hikes in defense spending at the expense of politically popular domestic programs that benefit the middle class.

It projects outlays of 3994 billion, revenue of \$550.4 billion, and a deficit of nearly \$144 billion. That is within the GrammRudman-Hollings austerity goals for fiscal 1987.

Rudman-Hollings austerity goals for fiscal 1987.

Both sides agreed the House vote on just Reagan's proposal was unprecedented. In the past presidential budgets have been debated alongside alternative plans put forward by the two parties.

While budget proposals lack the force of law, they serve the important purpose of identifying spending priorities and limits and setting deficit reduction targets. Trent Lott, R-Miss, called the vote "a partisan fudge-it process designed to score some political points and obscure the lack of a Democratic alternative."

Barney Frank, D-Mass, said, "I do not understand why it is considered illegitimate to vote on the president's budget, If it is defeated, there will be a chance to vote on the alternatives."

and Levin. Not voting: Broomfield.

TO BALANCE THE BUDGET — The Senate voted \$6.44 to table an amendment, by Howard Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, which called for prohibiting presidents from sending deficit budgets to Congress. Metzenbaum sought to impose a specific budget balancing responsibility on the Withe Homes.

waget-halancing responsibility on the Wilte House.
Referring to Reagan, Metzenbaum sald, "To propose massive deficits and still to crustade for a balanced budget seems to me to be hypocritical."
Sen.Paul Simon, D-III., who voted to table, said "the Constitution ought to deal in broad principles and not in details," such as specifically limiting a president's budgeting authority.
Senators voting yes were opposed to amending the proposed constitutional amendment to require presidents to submit balanced budgets to Congress.
Michigan Democrats Carl Levia and Donald Riegle voted no.





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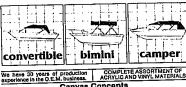
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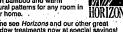
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