

House seeks underground-testing ban

Here's how area lawmakers were recorded on major roll-call votes before Congress began its current summer recess.

HOUSE

ARMIS CONTROL — By a vote of 234 for and 155 against, the House adopted an amendment requiring the Administration to halt underground nuclear weapons testing, providing that the Soviets do the same and permitting on-site verification.

Although unlikely to gain Senate approval, this expressed growing Capitol Hill concern that President Reagan is too recalcitrant in negotiating arms control with the Soviet Union.

The moratorium would affect tests of more than one kiloton, the equivalent of 1,000 tons of TNT, thus halting all but the smallest tests. It was attached to the fiscal 1987 military authorization bill (HR 4420).

Supporter H. R. Heflin, D-Ala., said: "We can't keep this futility (nuclear arms) treadmill while verification is still impossible."

Opponent Robert Michel, R-Ill., called the amendment "the first step of a radical and unprecedented attack by the president's critics to capture and dominate arms control policy and foreign policy."

Members voting yes wanted to force a mutually verifiable nuclear

testing moratorium between the Americans and Soviets.

Voting yes: Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth, Dennis Hertel, D-Harper Woods, William Ford, D-Taylor, Sander Levin, D-Southfield.

Voting no: William Broomfield, R-Birmingham.

AID TO THE PHILIPPINES — The House rejected, 195 for and 203 against, an amendment to prevent the United States from sending an additional \$250 million in foreign aid to the Philippines during the current fiscal year.

Added to about \$500 million in fiscal 1986 aid already approved for the Philippines, the extra money is intended to bolster the new, shaky democracy of President Corazon Aquino.

The amendment was offered to HR 5001, which was later sent to the Senate, and also contained \$108 million in aid to Haiti. Longtime dictators were ousted this year in both countries.

Opponent sponsor Gerald Solmon, R-N.Y., said the \$250 million was unnecessary because Aquino has refused to commit himself to renewing U.S. leases for Clark Air Force Base and Subic Naval Base in the Philippines.

Opponent Stephen Solarz, D-N.Y., said the money is needed to help the

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Aquino government defeat communist troops trying to seize it.

Members voting yes were opposed to sending \$250 million in special aid to the Philippines.

Voting yes: Pursell.

Voting no: Hertel, William Ford, Levin, Broomfield.

HIGHWAY BILLBOARDS — By a vote of 251 for and 159 against, the House approved what environmentalists said was the weaker of two pending amendments against unsightly billboards alongside federal highways.

The winning amendment was endorsed by the Outdoor Advertising Association of America, but opposed by the Sierra Club, the Audubon Society and the Reagan administration. It was attached to a highway bill (HR 3129) that awaited final House action.

It extends the current requirement that the federal government provide monetary compensation when it orders a billboard taken down. Conservationists say this sounds good but actually paralyzes

enforcement because federal beautification money is drying up.

Killed by this vote was a plan to turn the billboard program over to the states, which would have to meet federal beautification standards using their own compensation procedures.

Supporter Andy Bosco, R-Calif., said: "The principle we are trying to achieve is that signs will not be required to be taken down unless just compensation is paid for them."

Opponent Clay Shaw, R-La., called the amendment "The biggest bunch of protectionism for the outdoor advertising industry that I have ever seen in my life."

A yes vote was for the highway billboard amendment favored by the outdoor advertising lobby and opposed by the environmentalist lobby.

Voting yes: Pursell.

Voting no: Hertel, William Ford, Levin, Broomfield.

SENATE

PAC MONEY — By a vote of 69 for and 30 against, the Senate put a

limit on the campaign money congressional candidates can receive from political action committees (PACs).

Senators voting yes wanted to sharply limit PAC contributions to congressional candidates.

Voting yes: Carl Levin, Donald Riegle.

RELIGIOUS GARb — By a vote of 51 for and 49 against, the Senate tabled (killed) an amendment giving military commanders authority to permit troops to wear unobtrusive religious apparel while in uniform.

Referred to the fiscal 1987 defense authorization bill (S 2639), the amendment sought to overturn a religious expression that the U.S. Supreme Court says is unprotected by the First Amendment.

Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., who voted to kill the amendment, said: "The Department of Defense should never be put in the position of endorsing or rejecting specific religions."

Supporter Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., said PAC money is "destroying the election process. It is breaking down public confidence in free elections and it is ruining the character and quality of candidates."

Opponent Fred Boschitz, D-Minn., said: "I do not begin to buy the argument that senators and congressmen are for sale."

Voting no: Levin, Riegle.

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