

Roll Call Report

Dems push through rival to budget

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes in the week ending April 10.

HOUSE
1988 BUDGET — By a vote of 230 for and 192 against, the House adopted a fiscal 1988 budget projecting spending of slightly more than \$1 trillion, a deficit of \$108 billion to \$135.5 billion, and unspecified new taxes of \$18 billion.

The resolution (H Con Res 93) will go to conference with a companion measure now moving through the Senate. The resulting blueprint, which does not require President Reagan's signature, will guide Congress as it enacts spending and revenue bills for the fiscal year beginning this Oct. 1.

Authored by Democrats, the House blueprint sets a fiscal course sharply at odds with Reagan's budget request (below) and the priorities of the House GOP leadership, which this year did not propose an alternative budget.

In key disagreements, the Democratic budget provides less military and more domestic spending than favored by Reagan and the GOP leadership, and commits the House to approving substantial new taxes to trim the deficit.

Members voting yes favored the Democratic budget resolution.

Voting yes: Democrats Dennis Hertel of Harper Woods, William Ford of Taylor and Sander Levin, D-Southfield.

Voting no: Republicans Carl Pursell of Plymouth and William Broomfield of Birmingham.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET — The House rejected, 27 for and 394 against, President Reagan's proposed fiscal 1988 budget.

Reagan had sought a defense spending hike of \$7.8 billion above inflation, domestic spending cuts of \$22.5 billion below projections, the eventual elimination of dozens of programs, and \$6.1 billion from new revenue sources such as user fees, asset sales, tighter tax enforcement and levying the Medicare payroll tax on state and local government workers.

His budget was similar to the Democratic plan in its total spending and projected annual deficit.

Members voting yes favored President Reagan's budget.

Voting no: Pursell, Hertel, Ford, Levin and Broomfield.

BLACK CAUCUS BUDGET — By a vote of 56 for and 362 against, the House rejected the Congressional Black Caucus's fiscal 1988 budget plan.

This was the most liberal budget before the House. It recommended steeper defense cuts and more domestic spending than proposed by its competitors. And it urged much more revenue from new taxes, more generous domestic spending and zero funding of major weapons systems such as Star Wars and the MX missile.

Voting no: Pursell, Hertel, Ford, Levin and Broomfield.

CONSERVATIVES' BUDGET — The House rejected, 47 for and 369 against, the fiscal 1988 budget proposal of some of the House's most conservative members.

Along with their call for significantly higher defense and lower domestic spending than contained in the Democratic budget eventually approved by the House, the conservatives offered a fresh plan for easing the federal deficit — the issue of gold-backed government bonds.

Members voting yes supported the conservatives' budget.

Voting no: Pursell, Hertel, Ford,

Levin and Broomfield.

SENATE

PAY RAISE — By a vote of 50 for and 70 against, the Senate rejected an amendment concerning the recent \$12,100 pay raise for members of Congress.

At issue was an attempt by Gordon Humphrey, R-N.H., to saddle a bill providing homeless aid (HR 558; below) with language repealing the raise, which increased members' pay to \$89,500.

To sidetrack the repeal, the Demo-

cratic leadership introduced a substitute amendment that drew this vote. It set a paperwork procedure for senators wishing to return their raise to the Treasury, something many senators already are doing without benefit of new federal forms.

After surviving this vote, the repeal attempt fell victim to parliamentary procedure.

Senators voting yes wanted to strip the pay raise repeal from the homeless bill.

Voting no: Michigan Democrats Carl Levin and Donald Riegle.

HOMELESS BILL — The Senate passed, 85 for and 12 against, and sent to conference with the House a bill (HR 558) authorizing \$423 billion in fiscal 1987 emergency aid for the homeless.

The bill mainly funds locally run programs providing food, shelter and health care, as well as special help for mentally ill street people.

Senators voting yes favored the bill. Levin and Riegle voted yes.

INSURANCE PROBE — By a vote of 80 for and 18 against, the

Senate directed the Federal Trade Commission to probe insurance practices such as the skyrocketing premiums charged doctors, municipalities and others for liability coverage, and the sale of health insurance to the elderly to supplement Medicare.

The vote, which authorized a study but not a rulemaking, occurred during debate on a FTC funding bill (S 677) that was sent to the House.

Senators voting yes wanted the FTC to investigate certain insurance practices. Levin and Riegle voted yes.

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SEMTA
Lodge-ability logic

The northbound Lodge freeway has closed for reconstruction. But that doesn't have to mean headaches and confusion for commuters. Not when there's SEMTA. SEMTA introduces a little logic to Lodge travel by increasing bus service on three routes during construction to help commuters around the problems caused by the freeway closing. And that bit of logic should be all it takes to help keep things moving.

ROUTE 851 — Park and Ride: One more local and one more express trip will be operating during morning and afternoon rush hours to make this service even more attractive for Lodge commuters.

You can take a relaxing trip on the bus from Northland to The New Center, Wayne State or downtown Detroit for ONLY \$1.50 each way. And from Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills the fare is ONLY \$1.75 each way. Monthly passes and discount tickets are available for even greater savings.

ROUTE 410 — Southfield and ROUTE 470 — Berkley will have additional morning and afternoon trips scheduled to provide commuters in Southfield and Oak Park and commuters along Woodward one more convenient service to downtown Detroit and The New Center—Wayne State area while the Lodge is being rebuilt.

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Special interests' gifts up

AP — Common Cause's new study of campaign finances in the 1986 elections shows 11 of Michigan's 18 U.S. House members got at least half of their campaign dollars from committees financed by special interest groups.

The study showed that Rep. Bob Carr, D-Essex, ranked fifth among House members in total receipts from political action committees (PACs) \$449,000, or 61 percent.

HERE'S HOW Observer & Eccentric area congressmen were reported:

- William Ford, D-Taylor, \$221,000 from PACs, 66 percent, third highest in the state delegation. His district includes southern Livonia, Garden City, Westland and Canton.
- Dennis Hertel, D-Harper Woods, \$121,000, 60 percent. His district includes part of Troy.

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