

# House effort to cut bureau falls short

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes in the final days of the 99th Congress.

## HOUSE

### Roll Call Report

**TO KILL AN AGENCY** — By a vote of 247 for and 130 against, the House failed to achieve the two-thirds majority needed to eliminate the Federal Asset Disposition Association. The House tried a parliamentary shortcut to pass a bill (HR 4846) getting rid of FADA, which is preserved.

The three-year-old agency liquidates assets acquired by the government when the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp. (FSLIC) takes over failed thrift institutions.

Critics say FADA pays exorbitant salaries to its executives. Critics also say it does work that FSLIC should do itself.

Sponsor Bernard St. Germain, D-R.I., said the bill would eliminate "a wasteful, costly, unresponsive bureaucracy."

Opponent Chalmers Wylie, R-Ohio, said that after a rocky beginning "FADA is now under new leadership and its performance has improved dramatically."

Members voting yes wanted to eliminate the agency. Voting yes: Dennis Heflin, D-Harper Woods, William Ford, D-Taylor and Sander Levin, D-Southfield.

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

**DRUG BILL** — By a vote of 87 for and 3 against, the House sent to conference with the Senate an anti-drug bill (HR 5210).

The bill:

- Authorizes \$2.6 billion over two years for a broad attack on the supply and use of illegal drugs in the United States.

- Allows the death penalty for certain drug-related murders.

- Sets civil penalties for casual users.

- Denies many federal benefits to those illegally involved with drugs.

- Begins random drug testing of driver's license applicants in four

It omits House-approved language to legitimize certain drug evidence obtained without search warrants.

Along with its punitive measures, the massive bill funds education, prevention and rehabilitation programs, and attacks related problems such as homelessness, juvenile crime, alcohol abuse and AIDS.

Senators voting yes supported the bill. Voting yes: Michigan Democrats Carl Levin and Donald Riegle.

**TO DENY BENEFITS** — By a vote of 77 for and 10 against, the Senate adopted an amendment to the drug bill (above) to begin random drug testing in four states of young people applying for driver's licenses.

Testing would be done in California and three yet-unnamed states.

The pilot program could be extended to other states.

Supporter Howell Heflin, D-Ala., said the fear of losing driving privileges would turn many youths away from drugs.

Sponsor Phil Gramm, R-Texas,

said the amendment was aimed mainly at the demand side of the drug problem, "the market which consists of 23 million people who use drugs on a more or less regular basis."

Opponent Dale Bumpers, D-Ark., said "If strong criminal penalties do not provide a deterrent, I am not convinced the loss of federal benefits will."

Senators voting yes wanted to deny certain federal benefits to those illegally involved with drugs. Riegle voted yes.

Levin voted no.

**DRIVER'S LICENSES** — By a vote of 77 for and 10 against, the Senate adopted an amendment to the drug bill (above) to begin random drug testing in four states of young people applying for driver's licenses.

Testing would be done in California and three yet-unnamed states. The pilot program could be extended to other states.

Supporter Howell Heflin, D-Ala., said the fear of losing driving privileges would turn many youths away from drugs.

Opponent Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., said the program would prove to be unworkable and unconstitutional.

Senators voting yes favored a pilot program of random drug testing of driver's license applicants. Levin and Riegle voted yes.

**VETERANS' BENEFITS** — By a vote of 15 for and 47 against the Senate failed to table (kill) an amendment enabling veterans to obtain flight training under the GI bill.

This preserved the benefit as part of an overall veterans' bill (HR 4741). The bill was returned to the House.

Siron Thurmond, R-S.C., who voted to table, said Congress in 1981 stopped flight training under the GI bill because too many veterans were using the benefit for recreational purposes.

Sponsor Thomas Daschle, D-S.D., said the provision will make it easier for some veterans to obtain jobs in commercial aviation.

Senators voting no wanted to make flight training costs reimbursable under the GI bill. Riegle voted no.

Levin did not vote.

**NICARAGUA AND CHILE** — By a vote of 12 for and 54 against, the Senate failed to table (kill) a sense-of-the-Senate resolution aimed at Nicaragua's Marxist government and Chile's right-wing dictatorship. The measure later was approved as part of a Montana wilderness bill (S 2751).

The resolution accused the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua of violating the Central American peace process and urged humanitarian aid for the Contra rebels. And it called upon Chilean strongman Augusto Pinochet to keep his promise to hold competitive presidential elections in 1989.

Jesse Helms, R-N.C., who voted to table, objected to the resolution's criticism of the Pinochet government.

Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, said that after 15 years of Pinochet rule, "it is time for the military of Chile to return to barracks..."

Senators voting no supported the resolution. Levin and Riegle voted no.

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