

Roll Call Report

Here's how Observer & Eccentric-area members of the House of Representatives were recorded on major roll call votes in the week before the start of July congressional recess. The Senate was not in session.

AID TO INDIA: By a vote of 204 for and 212 against, the House rejected an amendment to cut aid to India for the next fiscal year from a committee-approved level of \$110.4 million to \$85 million. This occurred as the House sent to the Senate a bill (HR 2655) authorizing about \$23 billion in worldwide foreign assistance in fiscal 1990-91.

Sponsor Wally Herger, R-Calif., said India deserves less aid as a result of human rights abuses cited by Amnesty International, its develop-

ment of nuclear weaponry and the economic hardship it has inflicted this year on its landlocked neighbor Nepal.

Opponent Stephen Solarz, D-N.Y., said the amendment would "have a chilling effect on our relationship with the world's most populous democracy."

Area members voting yes supporting cuts in aid to India were: Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth and William Ford, D-Taylor.

Dennis Hertel, D-Harper Woods, Sander Levin, D-Southfield, and William Broomfield, R-Lake Orion voted no.

TO SANCTION CHINA: By a vote of 418 for and zero against, the House imposed legislative penalties

on China that go far beyond the diplomatic and trade sanctions ordered by President Bush in response to the Chinese government's massacre of pro-democracy demonstrators and crackdown on dissenters.

Added to the new foreign aid bill (above), the amendment is designed to withhold American capital and sensitive exports, slow China's technological development, impair its national security and hold Chinese leaders up for world scorn over their repression of Tibetans and their own citizens. It seeks American accommodation of Chinese students in the United States, and hinges any improvement in America's attitude toward China on Bush's certification that Beijing has begun respecting human rights.

Jim Leach, R-Iowa, said the House must express America's "great dis-

trust about the butchery in Beijing and the brutal reimposition of Stalinist totalitarian control in China." No lawmaker spoke against the amendment.

Members voting yes supporting the anti-China legislation were: Pursell, Carr, Ford, Levin and Broomfield.

TO CUT PHILIPPINES AID: By a vote of 185 for and 233 against, the House rejected an amendment to HR 2655 (above) to reduce foreign aid to the Philippines from \$1 billion to \$400 million over the next two fiscal years. The cut was to have lowered America's share of a multi-country aid program in which Japan and other nations also will provide the Philippines with development funds.

Sponsor Toby Roth, R-Wisc., said "the Philippine people are a nice

people... but the American taxpayer has to be considered at some point, too."

Opponent Robert Lagomarsino, R-Calif., said ample American aid will "help shore up the Philippines economy and thereby its democracy" against a Communist insurgency.

Members voting yes supported the proposed cut in aid to the Philippines.

Ford Voted yes. Pursell, Hertel, Levin and Broomfield voted no.

TO LIMIT IMPRISONMENT: By a vote of 376 for and 34 against, the House sent to the Senate a bill (HR 2136) to limit imprisonment for civil contempt of court in the District of Columbia. A person found in contempt could be kept in jail for no more than 12 months or, if criminal charges have been filed during the

incarceration, 18 months.

The immediate aim of the retroactive bill is to free Dr. Elizabeth Morgan, a Washington plastic surgeon who has been jailed for the past 22 months by a D.C. Superior Court judge unhappy with her refusal to cooperate in a child custody case. Morgan has put her daughter in hiding and refuses to allow the child to see her father, who is claimed by Mrs. Morgan to have molested the child.

Supporters said the bill insures due process for people jailed in D.C. for civil contempt of court, while opponents said Congress could not make a new law retroactive to a specific case pending in court.

Area members voting yes supporting the bill were: Pursell, Levin and Broomfield. Hertel and Ford voted no.

Towel sale benefits homeless animals

For all you lucky dogs soaking up summer sun, the Michigan Humane Society has just the item — a beach towel featuring a grinning dog floating in an inner tube, wearing sunglasses and flowered swimtrunks, and holding a cold, tropical drink.

The towel, 100 percent cotton velour measuring 30- by 60-inches, sells for \$16. A frisbee, featuring the same dog in sunglasses and the logo "Dog Days of Summer" is also available for \$2.

Proceeds from the sales will benefit homeless animals at the Michigan Humane Society.

Both items are available at all Michigan Humane Society shelters



Sales of this beach towel will benefit animals at the Michigan Humane Society.

In Detroit, Westland and Auburn Hills.

For more information, call 435-4710.

consumer mailbag

This is the second part of an article on pesticides in our food: **HOW MUCH PESTICIDE RESIDUE IS FOUND ON FRUITS AND VEGETABLES?**

It's difficult to tell because the FDA doesn't regularly test for about one-half of the pesticides that are used.

Apples receive more pesticides per acre than any other major U.S. crop and tests show that about one of every two apples contain residue. That's bad news for children who drink a lot of apple juice.

In 1987, all but one sample of cranberries and over two-thirds of the strawberries, celery, parsnips and imported grapes contained residues.

Pesticides turned up on more than one-half of the spinach, lettuce, and domestic greens tested. Residue levels are usually higher on leafy vegetables because of their larger surface area. These residues may not be substantially lowered during meal

preparation because leafy vegetables are often eaten uncooked and/or not thoroughly washed.

DOES WASHING AND PEELING HELP REDUCE RESIDUES?

Usually, but not always. If the residue has penetrated the skin or peel, washing or peeling won't help.

For most produce, however, washing the outside with a few drops of dish detergent in a pint of water does work better than just rinsing with water.

Peeling is obviously the most effective way to remove pesticides that are on or in the peel. But when you peel, you're peeling away fiber.

WHAT ABOUT THE NEW PESTICIDE - AND WAX - REMOVING WASHES?

Their ingredient lists make them look remarkably like dish detergent, but at a cost of up to eight times more than detergent. Manufacturers insist that these washes are superior because they don't penetrate the skin

or leave soapy residue. They don't remove wax coatings either.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT WAXED PRODUCE?

The best advice is to peel waxed produce. Wax coatings can't be washed away. As a result, they can seal in pesticide residues that are already on the produce.

Wax is used to prevent moisture loss and retard shriveling. The problem is that many waxes are often mixed with fungicides.

Cucumbers are not the only produce that are waxed. Thin, less-noticable wax coatings often are used on apples, bell peppers, citrus fruits, peaches, squashes, sweet potatoes and tomatoes.

Federal law requires that stores identify bulk produce that has been waxed, but those signs almost never appear despite stiff penalties because there isn't the state or federal manpower to enforce the law.

DO SOME SUPERMARKETS

TEST THEIR PRODUCE FOR PESTICIDES?

Yes. Some regional chains (including Farmer Jack in the Detroit area) use private testing companies.

MutiClean, the largest company, certifies foods that meet its "no detectable residue" standard. NutriClean tries to test for all pesticides which could be present at levels much lower than those allowed by the EPA, but it could miss some. Don't confuse "no detected residue" with "no residue."

The pesticide residue in any produce you eat will depend on the type, number and amount of pesticide applied; where and by whom the produce was grown; weather conditions; the time spent in storage; how well you've washed it and whether it's been peeled or cooked.

The Consumer Mailbag answers your questions. Address mail to The Consumer Mailbag, Concern Detroit, One Kennedy Square, 4th Floor, Detroit, 48226.

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SUMMER SKI SALE STARTS SATURDAY JULY 29. BEST SKI & SKIWEAR BUYS OF THE YEAR SEE OUR FULL PAGE ADS IN THURSDAYS ECCENTRIC, FRIDAYS DETROIT NEWS AND FREE PRESS FOR SALE PRICES. DON'T MISS IT!

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