

# House reviews proposals on spending, foreign aid

Here's how Observer & Eccentric area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes in the week ending April 6.

## HOUSE:

**TO PASS SPENDING BILL** — By a vote of 362 for and 59 against, the House sent to the Senate a bill (HR 4404) providing \$2.4 billion in extra federal spending this fiscal year. About \$1.6 billion would be taken from the defense budget and the rest is to be newly appropriated.

The bill's major foreign outlays are \$420 million to Panama, \$400 million to Israel and \$300 million to Nicaragua. At home it provides additional funds this year for veterans' benefits, food stamps, federal judges' pay, disaster aid, federal firefighting and other programs.

Supporter Silvio Conte, R-Mass., said "now comes the time to follow through" on helping Panama and Nicaragua.

Opponent Toby Roth, R-Wis., said "the American people are not in favor of the legislation being debated here today."

Members voting yes supported the extra fiscal 1990 spending. Local members voting yes were Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth, Dennis Hertel, D-Harper Woods, William Ford, D-Taylor, Sander Levin, D-Southfield and William Broomfield, R-Birmingham.

**FOREIGN AID** — By a vote of 72 for and 346 against, the House rejected an amendment to HR 4404 (above) shaving about \$33 million from the bill's aid to Panama, Nicaragua and Israel.

Sponsor James Traflet, D-Ohio, said "I'm tired of foreign aid" at the expense of domestic needs.

Opponent Mickey Edwards, R-Okla., said the amendment would not lower spending but leave the money in the defense budget.

Members voting yes supported the amendment.

## Roll Call Report

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

**COUNTING HATE CRIMES** — By a vote of 402 for and 18 against, the House sent to President Bush a bill (HR 1048) requiring police agencies including the FBI to keep statistics on crimes motivated by prejudice against race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation.

Supporter Barbara Kennelly, D-Conn., said hate crimes "diminish the whole community in which they exist."

Opponent William Dannemeyer, R-Calif., said it was wrong for the bill to "equate homosexuality... with the heterosexual lifestyle."

Members voting yes supported the bill. Pursell, Hertel, Levin and Broomfield voted yes. Ford did not vote.

## SENATE:

**CLEAN AIR BILL** — The Senate passed, 89 for and 11 against, a bill (S 1620) giving the Clean Air Act its first major upgrade since 1977. Similar legislation is moving through the House.

The bill would curb urban smog by cutting tailpipe emissions in one and possibly two phases over the next several years, and by requiring reformulated or "clean" fuels to be introduced on a limited basis.

It would reduce acid rain by cutting sulfur dioxide emissions from coal-fired power plants located mostly in the Midwest and Appalachia. In its other major thrust, it would reduce airborne carcinogens by requiring factories to install equipment controlling the release of some 200 toxic chemicals that are now essentially unregulated.

Senators voting yes supported the bill. Michigan Democratic senators Carl Levin and Donald Riegle voted yes.

**CLEAN AIR AMENDMENT** — By a vote of 49 for and 51 against, the Senate rejected an amendment to ease the burden of obtaining permits that the clean air bill (above) puts on factories using toxic chemicals. The amendment also sought to make it more difficult for EPA enforcers to review a permit on health grounds before the permit's scheduled expiration. It was backed by the White House, business and labor as pro-jobs, and opposed by environmentalists.

Supporter Bob Dole, R-Kansas, said the amendment would help the 50,000 companies that would need permits under the legislation.

Opponent Max Baucus, D-Montana, said this "lawyer's relief act" would undermine the clean air bill. Senators voting yes supported the amendment.

Senators Levin and Riegle voted no.

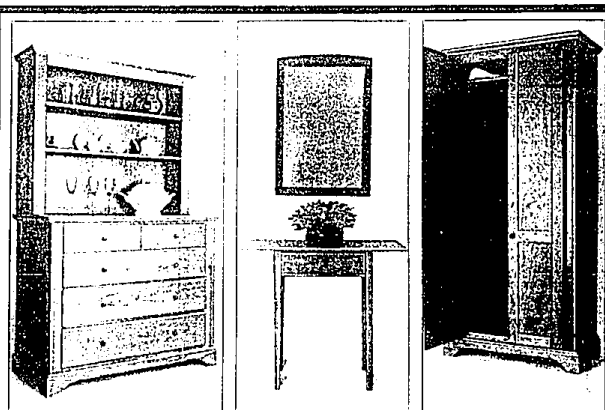
**TO CONFIRM TIMOTHY RYAN** — The Senate confirmed, 62 for and 37 against, Timothy Ryan Jr. as director of the Office of Thrift Supervision. The agency regulates the nation's viable savings-and-loans and has a leading role in disposing of the hundreds of insolvent ones. Ryan, a 44-year-old labor lawyer, was controversial mainly because he lacks banking experience.

Senators voting yes wanted Ryan confirmed.

Senators Levin and Riegle voted no.

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