

Here's how Observer & Eccentric-area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes in the closing days of the 101st Congress. HOUSE:

To Extend Consumer Agency — By a vote of 375 for and 41 against, the House sent to the White House a bill to keep the Consumer Product Safety Commission alive with budgets of \$42 million in fiscal 1991 and \$45 million in 1992. President Bush was expected to sign the measure (S 603)

The agency has been slowed in its mission by battles between consumer and business interests over how far it should go to keep hazardous products off the markets. This bill makes it easier for it to obtain a quorum to conduct business. Among other provisions, it requires manufacturers to inform the panel if they lose a threshold number of lawsuits over their products, and mandates safety standards for a few risky products including garage door openers and cigarette lighters that are easily ignited by children.

Supporter Doug Walgren, D-Pa., said the bill has strong backing from consumer groups and the agency itself.

Opponent Howard Neilsen, R-Utah, said "the bill outrageously mismanages, micromanages, this agency."

A yes vote was to reauthorize the product safety commission. Voting yes were Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth, William Ford, D-Taylor, Dennis Hertel, D-Harper Woods and Sander Levin, D-Southfield. Voting no was William Broomfield, R-Birmingham.

Immigration Reform — By a vote of 264 for and 118 against, the House gave final congressional approval of a bill (\$358) reforming the process of legal immigration into the United States. President Bush was expected to sign the bill, under which the current limit of 500,000 immigrants annually will be raised to 700,000, between 1992-94, then drop permanently to 650,000. The majority of the new visas will go to persons with needed job and professional skills or who come from European and African countries that have had low quotas in recent decades. One innovation is a set-aside of 10,000 visas each year for investors of at least \$1 million in new, job-creating businesses in America.

The bill eases restrictions based on ideology and sexual preference, gives the Department of Health and Human Services power to admit immigrants who may be infected with AIDS, and is more protective than current law of political refugees from El Salvador and elsewhere in Latin America.

A yes vote was to pass the immigration reform bill. Voting yes were William Ford, Levin and Broomfield. Voting no was Hertel. Pursell did not vote.

Clean Air -- By a vote of 401 for and 25 against, the House gave its final approval of a bill (S 1630) accelerating federal efforts to make the air healthier to breathe, protect the Earth's ozone layer against further depletion and curb the damage acid rain inflicts on lakes and for-

President Bush was set to sign the first upgrade of the Clean Air Act in 13 years. Supported by much of the business community and environmentalists, the 750-page measure relies on economic incentives and

SENATE:

Clean Air -- By a vote of 89 for and 10 against, the Senate sent to President Bush for his expected signature a bill (S 1630) overhauling the nation's clean air laws for the first time since 1977.

The bill seeks major reductions by the end of the century in toxic and carcinogenic discharges from factories, power plant emissions that deplete the Earth's ozone layer and

One new approach is that the bill legislatively spells out certain over-

all goals in the acceptable levels of pollutants, rather than leave those key regulatory decisions to possible uncertainty and delay in the executive branch.

A yes vote was to pass the 1990 Clean Air Act. Voting yes were Senators Carl Levin, D, and Donald Riegle, D.

Farm Bill — By a vote of 60 for and 36 against, the Senate sent to President Bush a bill (S 2830) extending farm programs for five years at a projected cost of \$54 billion over five years, an amount to be

forced as low as \$41 billion by the deficit-reduction accord approved separately by the 101st Congress.

In addition to regulating nearly all aspects of farming, from income levels to growing priorities, the mammoth bill delivers food-purchasing and nutrition assistance to the poor, sets environmental policy in such areas as pesticide use, and shows the rest of the world where the United States stands on the key trade issue of governments protecting their own farmers.

The bill makes few structural

changes in the supports and subsidies that prop up American farm income, or in the regulations for commodities such as wheat, cotton, rice, feed grains, sugar and peanuts. Its major free-market innovation, which will achieve much of its required deficit target, is the mandatory reduction of 15 percent of acreage eligible for crop subsidies. Farmers will be able to use the freed up land for growing the crops they see as most profitable.

A yes vote was to pass the five-year farm bill. Voting yes were Levin and Riegle.

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