

Broomfield sticks with Bush for no abortion counseling

Here's how Observer & Eccentric-area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes in the week ending Close of 102nd Congress

HOUSE

To Override Cable Veto: By a vote of 308 for and 114 against, the House defeated President Bush's veto of a bill (S 12) empowering federal and local authorities to regulate cable television rates and service standards. This followed a similar Senate vote (below) and marked Congress's first override of a Bush veto.

Override supporter Steve Gunderson, R-Wis., said "this is not a vote to embarrass the president. This is a vote to support our constituents."

Veto backer Michael Oxley, R-Ohio, called the bill "a pre-election scam that is going to fool the consumer." When cable rates are driven higher by regulation.

A yes vote was to regulate cable television. **Area representatives voting yes were:** Dan Harte, D-Harper Woods, William Ford, D-Taylor, Sander Levin, D-Southfield and William Broomfield, R-Birmingham. **Voting no:** Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth.

Abortion Issue: By a vote of 265 for and 148 against, the House failed to achieve the two-thirds majority needed to enact, over President Bush's veto, a bill (S 323) permitting federally funded clinics to provide abortion counseling as a family planning option. Override supporter Henry Waxman, D-Calif., said "this

veto is callous to the needs of poor women around the nation."

In his veto message, the president objected that "the Congress has seen fit to entangle this family planning program in the politics of abortion."

A yes vote supported federally funded abortion counseling. **Area representatives voting yes were:** Pursell, Harte, William Ford, Sander Levin. **Voting no:** Broomfield.

To Clear Tax Bill: By a vote of 208 for and 202 against, the House approved the conference report on legislation (HR 11) providing \$27 billion in tax breaks over five years to spur personal savings and business growth and attract capital to urban and rural "enterprise zones." The bill remains deficit-neutral by raising an approximate amount of revenue, through hundreds of tax code changes primarily affecting corporations and high-income individuals.

Supporter Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., said "members have said that we are raising taxes. Why do they not talk about the taxes that we are cutting?"

Opponent Bill Archer, R-Texas, said "this country at this time does not need dozens of tax increases."

A yes vote was to pass the bill. **Area representatives voting yes were:** Sander Levin. **Voting no:** Pursell, Harte, William Ford and Broomfield.

Aid to Former Soviet Union: By a vote of 232

for and 164 against, the House approved the conference report on a fiscal 1993 aid bill (S 2532) for the former Soviet Union. The bill provides \$505 million in development and humanitarian aid and \$940 million for dismantling nuclear weapons, and increases the U.S. commitment to International Monetary Fund reserves by \$12.3 billion.

Supporter Harry Johnston, D-Ill., said "Russia's successful transformation to market-oriented democracy will yield bottom-line benefits for the American taxpayer."

Opponent Maxine Waters, D-Calif., said "I am not about to support anything for Russia or anybody else until we do something for our own in this country."

A yes vote supported the bill. **Area representatives voting yes were:** Harte, William Ford, Sander Levin and Broomfield. **Voting no:** Pursell.

Tobacco Policy: The House voted 338 for and 71 against to restore smoking rights at Veterans Administration hospitals. If confined to designated areas. This repeated a 1990 VA administrative ban on indoor smoking at the hospitals. The vote occurred as the House passed a bill upgrading veterans health programs (HR 5192).

Supporter Don Sundquist, R-Tenn., said "as long as smoking remains a lawful activity, hospitalized veterans should enjoy the same rights as every other American."

Opponent Jim McDermott, D-Wash., said "requiring federal hospitals to expose their patients to a carcinogen is

not good public health legislation."

A yes vote supported smoking rights at VA hospitals. **Area representatives voting yes were:** Harte, William Ford and Sander Levin. **Voting no:** Pursell and Broomfield.

The Budget For Congress: By a vote of 253 for and 143 against, the House approved the conference report on a \$2.27 billion budget for the house, Senate and congressional support agencies in fiscal 1993. The legislative branch appropriations bill (HR 5427) is \$31 million below the comparable 1992 measure.

Vic Fazio, D-Calif., said "the legislative budget has been tightly constrained, and that hardly ever gets reported to the American people."

Pat Roberts, R-Kan., objected that the conference committee decided against a formal audit of "questionable spending practices" by the 30 legislative caucuses that are an unofficial appendage to House committees.

A yes vote was to pass the bill. **Area representatives voting yes were:** Harte, William Ford, Sander Levin. **Voting no:** Pursell and Broomfield.

SENATE

To Ratify 'Start': By a vote of 93 for and 6 against, the Senate approved the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START). It is now up to the four former Soviet republics with nuclear weapons to ratify the pact. By 1999, the treaty would reduce by

about one-third each side's existing stocks of long-range nuclear warheads. Further cuts are expected from a follow-up agreement between President Bush and Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Supporter Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., called the treaty "a very real step toward bringing an end to the global nuclear arms race."

Opponent Malcolm Wallop, R-Wyo., said that if the United States ratifies START it will lose leverage for negotiating further arms cuts.

A yes vote was to ratify START. **Michigan Sens. Carl Levin, D, and Donald Riegler, D, voted yes.**

To Cut Congress's Budget: The Senate adopted, 85 for and 13 against, an amendment ordering an outside study of the congressional staff structure and cutting the legislative branch budget by 15 percent during fiscal 1993-5. The measure was then defeated in House-Senate conference on the legislative branch appropriations bill (HR 5427; see House vote above).

"Congress has a staff nine times bigger than that of any country in the world," said sponsor Hank Brown, R-Colo.

Opponent Slade Gorton, R-Wash., said cutting staff in the face of mounting world problems is "more likely to inhibit the operation of Congress and the public interest than it will be to enhance it."

A yes vote supported the amendment. **Carl Levin and Riegler voted yes.**

Nominees' Legal Ex-

penses: By a vote of 11 for and 87 against, the Senate refused to establish a \$1 million fund for the legal expenses of presidential nominees who face difficult Senate confirmation hearings. Debate on the amendment to HR 5427 (above) recalled the Clarence Thomas-Anita Hill confrontation.

"We have had, in very recent times, very visible confirmation fights in the U.S. Senate," said sponsor John Danforth, R-Mo., arguing nominees need expert counsel because "it has become something of an art to tear down" a reputation.

Opponent Joseph Biden, D-Del., said any such fund should also benefit witnesses. "Clearly, Professor Hill's character was attacked every bit as vigorously as (Danforth) believes the nominee's character was attacked," he said.

A yes vote was to support Treasury reimbursement of nominees' legal counsel. **Carl Levin and Riegler voted no.**

To pass Tax Bill: By a vote of 67 for and 22 against, the Senate followed the House (above) and approved a five-year fiscal-stimulus bill (HR 11) providing about \$27 billion in tax breaks, including \$11.6 billion in incentives to draw investment to 50 urban and rural "enterprise zones."

Revenue lost through the tax cuts is regained by new revenue that the bill would obtain mostly from businesses and the well-to-do.

The bill was sent to the White House for President Bush's promised veto.

A yes vote was to pass the bill. **Carl Levin and Riegler both voted yes.**

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