

## ROLL CALL REPORT

## Local Dems OK Clinton plan

Here's how *Observer* & *Eccentric*-area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes in the week ending MAY 28

## HOUSE

**Yes to Clinton's Economic Package:** The House passed, 219 for and 213 against, a bill (HR 2284) that would enact President Clinton's plan to rehabilitate the U.S. economy with massive spending restraint, tax hikes and entitlement curbs phased in over five years. The measure would slow national debt growth by \$500 billion but still allow red ink to expand by 25 percent over today's level, to \$4 trillion-plus in fiscal 1995.

The bill's \$250 billion in net tax hikes would result mainly from raising rates on wealthy individuals (\$115 billion), imposing a BTU tax on most residential and commercial energy consumption (\$71.5 billion) and business tax increases including a corporate rate hike (\$36.6 billion).

On the spending side, the plan seeks an additional \$250 billion in deficit reduction primarily by restraining defense and other discretionary outlays (\$102 billion), curbing certain Medicare costs (\$78.6 billion) and paying less in debt service as a result of the legislation (\$50 billion).

Supporter Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., said Democrats "must show the country that we can govern, that we are a different Democratic Party that cares about deficit reduction and cares about our future."

The average cost for a resident undergraduate with 31 credits will be \$3,029.13 for the year, an increase of \$267.88. The cost includes an increase in undergraduate

Most importantly, for 12 years the politicians have misled the people and fed them pabulum and not told them the truth. Today we must look the American people in the eye and say . . . that we will vote for this package to get America right, to stop eating our young and to get America back on track."

Opponent Dana Rohrabacher, R-Calif., said: "This proposal will not reduce the deficit because it does not eliminate one federal domestic program. The American people are being expected to suffer \$300 billion in higher taxes and (Democrats) couldn't find even one little domestic program to eliminate. This program will sock it to the middle class . . . This is blind-side economics. People are going to wake up on April 15 next year and feel like they were hit by a truck from Arkansas."

A yes vote was to pass the bill. Area representatives voting yes were: Bob Carr, D-Pontiac, Dale Kildee, D-Flint, Sander Levin, D-Southfield and William Ford, D-Ypsilanti. Voting no: Joseph Knollenberg, R-Birmingham.

**GOP Alternative Rejected:** By a vote of 138 for and 295 against, the House rejected the Republican alternative to the Clinton fiscal plan (above). The GOP measure differed mainly by not raising taxes and achieving more than double the discretionary spending savings eyed by Democrats. The Republican plan sought to reduce deficit growth by about \$400 billion over five years, 20 percent below the Democratic target.

Supporter Robert Walker, R-Pa., said the Republican plan "reduces

spending and it does not raise taxes. By reducing spending it reduces the size of government. Less government means more private entrepreneurship, which means a greater chance for Americans to get jobs. If you vote for the (GOP) plan you're voting to create jobs. If you vote for the Democrat plan you're voting to kill jobs."

Opponent David Obey, D-Wis., said: "Now we're told that the crowd that gave us the 80s has got a better plan. I would suggest that even Babe Ruth was only given three strikes before he was declared out. The (GOP) plan is \$98 billion less in deficit reduction . . . hits farmers 50 percent harder . . . hits \$10 billion harder at Medicare . . . and will fall very hard on low-income taxpayers."

A yes vote supported the GOP fiscal plan. Area representatives voting yes were: Knollenberg, Levin and Ford.

## SENATE

**No to Campaign Financing Checkoff:** The Senate rejected, 35 for and 60 against, an amendment making voluntary taxpayer checkoffs of \$5 the main vehicle for financing Senate general election campaigns. The vote occurred during debate on pending campaign finance reform legislation (S 3). Sponsors said 10 million checkoffs each April 15 would provide for 90 percent public financing of all Senate general election races, in keeping with the bill's state-by-state spending limits. The drain on the Treasury was to have been offset by repealing lobbyist's tax

deductions.

Sponsor John Kerry, D-Mass., said his amendment would let "each citizen in this country decide whether or not they want to fund a campaign and liberate their U.S. Congress from special interests."

Opponent Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said "the American public absolutely hates, detests and despises taxpayer funding of elections."

A yes vote was to approve the taxpayer-checkoff amendment for Senate races. Michigan Sen. Carl Levin, D, voted no and Sen. Donald Riegle, D, voted yes.

**Contribution Limit:** By a vote of 13 for and 84 against, the Senate rejected an amendment to reduce from \$1,000 to \$100 the maximum individual contribution to a Senate candidate in a six-year election cycle. The vote occurred during debate on a campaign reform bill (S 3) that remained in debate.

Sponsor Paul Wellstone, D-Minn., said numerous individual contributions of \$1,000, when assembled by an interest group, amount to "the same big money that will continue to dominate the political process."

Opponent Dave Durenberger, R-Minn., said the amendment "creates the risk of turning (senators) into full-time fund-raising machines."

A yes vote supported the amendment. Levin and Riegle both voted no.

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## OU raises student tuition, fees

Oakland University students will pay more in tuition and fees beginning with this year's summer term.

The OU Board of Trustees approved an average 9.7 percent hike for Michigan undergraduates at its June 3 meeting.

The tuition and fee increase will raise an additional \$2.9 million in general fund revenues and takes effect with the 1993 summer session starting June 30.

The average cost for a resident undergraduate with 31 credits will be \$3,029.13 for the year, an increase of \$267.88. The cost includes an increase in undergraduate

## HIGHER ED

ate required fees from \$196 to \$212 a year.

OU President Sandra Packard said the university "regretted having to place the burden of a tuition increase on our students, but we are going into our third straight year with no increase in our state appropriation. The additional revenue is needed to help insure the quality of our programs."

Packard said that for a decade the university has ranked near the bottom of the 16 public uni-

versities in percentage of increase in tuition and required fees. "We do not want to be in a position of denying an education to any student because of our costs."

She pointed out that OU was raising its financial aid budget by 9.79 percent to help offset the tuition and fee increase.

The tuition and fee increase is part of a \$70 million general fund operating budget approved by the board June 3. That, according to Packard, is 4 percent higher than the 1992-1993 budget. Faculty salaries are contracted to go up 5.74 percent in 1993-94.

Ray Harris, acting vice presi-

dent for finance and administration, said the \$70 million budget does not include approximately \$300,000 in high priority items for the university.

The tuition and fee schedule for resident Michigan undergraduate and graduate students is:

Freshman and sophomore students will pay \$84.25 a credit hour, up \$7.50; Juniors and seniors will be charged \$97.60 a credit hour, an increase of \$8.75; and graduate students will pay \$164, up \$15 a credit hour.

In addition, there is an increase in required university fees from \$196 to \$212 for all students.

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