

# House advances anti-busing plan for Reagan signature

WASHINGTON: Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes June 4-10.

## HOUSE

**BUSING:** The House adopted, 265 for and 122 against, an amendment to prevent the Justice Department from pursuing court actions that propose busing to desegregate schools. The measure was attached to a FY 1982 funding bill later sent to the Senate, which is expected to clear the busing language for President Reagan's anticipated signature. Last year, former President Carter vetoed a similar prohibition.

Sponsor Jim Collins, R-Tex., said "we see increasing minority populations in the public schools and white flight to the point where busing for racial purposes is actually causing segregation."

Opponent Don Edwards, D-Calif.,

said "If we adopt this amendment we will be setting back the cause of desegregation in this country by 25 years."

Members voting "yes" wanted to prevent the Justice Department from advocating busing to integrate schools. Reps. Carl Pursell, R-Pa., David Bonior, D-Mt. Clemens, William Ford, D-Taylor, William Brodhead, D-Detroit, and James Blanchard, D-Pleas. Ridge voted "yes."

Rep. William Brodhead, R-Birmingham did not vote.

**NERVE GAS:** By a vote of 135 for and 220 against, the House rejected an attempt to prevent the Army from producing nerve gas. Left intact by the vote is ongoing preparation of the Pine Bluff, Ark., arsenal for production of binary nerve gas. The vote came during debate on a military construction bill (HR 3455) later sent to the Senate.

## roll call report

Rep. David Bonior, D-Mich., who voted "yes," called the move toward nerve gas production an example of "the unjustified militaristic hysteria which seems to have dominated the Congress following the international events of the last year-and-a-half."

Rep. Larry Hopkins, R-Ky., said nerve gas weaponry "would give us a creditable deterrent against what I believe is a very serious Soviet-Warsaw Pact threat."

Members voting "yes" oppose Pentagon plans to add binary nerve gas to the U.S. arsenal.

Bonior, Ford, Brodhead and Blanchard voted "yes."

Broadhead voted "nay."

Pursell did not vote.

**PERSONNEL CUTS:** The House adopted, 195 for and 178 against, an amendment to permit deeper personnel cuts at the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). This put the House behind the administration request that 43 of NOAA's 12,670 full-time positions be eliminated this fiscal year. The Senate had wanted to eliminate only 120 slots at the expense of deeper cuts elsewhere in Commerce. The vote occurred during debate on a FY 1981 funding bill later cleared by Congress and sent to the White House.

Sponsor Silvio Conte, R-Mass., said it would be wrong to block needed personnel cuts at "one of the biggest bureaucracies in town, the National

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration."

Opponent Neal Smith, D-Iowa, said major job cuts at NOAA would hurt aquaculture programs and a project to combat fruit frost.

Members voting "yes" supported cutting NOAA staffing this year by as much as 3.6 percent.

Pursell and Broadhead voted "yes."

Bonior, Ford, Brodhead and Blanchard voted "nay."

## SENATE

**FOOD STAMPS:** The Senate passed, 77 for and 17 against, a bill reducing the \$12.3 billion-a-year food stamp program by \$1.5 billion in fiscal 1982 and tightening eligibility to deny stamps to about one million of the present 11 million recipients. The bill was sent to the House.

Virtually all senators voting "nay" thought the bill did not go far enough to tighten the program.

Sen. Carl Levin, D, voted "yes."

Sen. Donald Riegle, D, did not vote.

**BUYING FOOD STAMPS:** The Senate rejected, 33 for and 66 against, an amendment to require some food stamp recipients to pay for the coupons. The blind, disabled and very poor would continue to get the stamps

free, but about 55 percent of present recipients would have to buy them at a cost well below the stamps' purchasing power.

Sponsor Steven Symms, R-Idaho, said lifting of the purchase requirement in 1977 was "an open invitation to the public to come in and get the free food stamps and now the program has gotten out of hand."

Opponent Robert Dole, R-Kans., said requiring purchases would add administrative overhead and deny stamps to nearly three million needy who cannot afford to buy them.

Senators voting "yes" wanted the majority of food stamp recipients to start paying for them.

**INDEXING FOOD STAMPS:** By a vote of 41 for and 53 against, the Senate rejected a plan to let spending for food stamps rise if inflation and unemployment increase faster than anticipated by the congressional budget blueprint. (See preceding votes.)

Supporter Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., said the amendment seeks an "honest cap formula — not a liberal one, not a conservative one, not a Republican one, not a Democratic one, but a realistic one."

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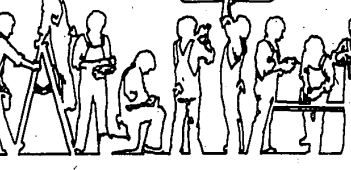
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