

States told to police auto emissions; FDR memorial funded

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes July 16-22.

AUTO POLLUTION: The House rejected 177-184 an amendment to prevent annual inspections aimed at controlling air pollution by motor vehicles. The vote leaves intact a federal law that, beginning in 1982, will require states to police auto emissions in 37 metropolitan areas having the nation's dirtiest air. The amendment, offered for fiscal 1982, will require states to police auto emissions in 37 metropolitan areas having the nation's dirtiest air. The amendment was offered to a fiscal 1982 appropriations bill for the Environmental Protection Agency and other agencies. The bill was sent to the Senate.

Supporter Doug Walgren, D-Penn., said the federal policy "is wrong because it puts the burden on the car owner, and not the car manufacturer. . . . Detroit should be making devices that are long-lasting and devices that work."

Opponent Henry Waxman, D-Calif., said an appropriations bill was not the vehicle for changing the 1970 Clean Air Act, and he added that "poor maintenance by motorists is the main reason auto emission inspections are needed."

Members voting "yes" wanted to avert state inspections of auto-emission devices.

Rep. William Broomfield, R-Birm., voted "yes."

Rep. Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth, David Bonior, D-Mt. Clemens, William Brodhead, D-Detroit, and James Blanchard, D-Pleas. Ridge, voted "nay."

S&L mortgage defaults slip

The United States League of Savings Association reports that the number of delinquent mortgage loans held by savings and loan associations dropped last month to the lowest levels of the year.

No comparable figures for Michigan mortgages were immediately available.

The league reports 15-16 million savings and loan mortgages are outstanding nationally. The delinquency rate — with delinquency defined as payments more than 90 days late — was computed

from surveys of some 931 savings and loan associations with combined assets of about \$225 billion, 55 percent of all savings and loan assets.

The June rate was 0.86 percent, down slightly from 0.90 percent in May. The rate has declined each month this year, except May. The rate was 0.98 percent in January.

A spokesman for the league said the group has no explanation for why delinquencies would fall while unemployment does not.

roll call report

Reps. William Ford, D-Taylor, did not vote.

SELECTIVE SERVICE: By a vote of 125-290, the House rejected an amendment to prevent the Selective Service System from using Social Security numbers to enforce the draft registration requirement. The amendment was offered to the defense authorization bill, later sent to conference with the Senate.

There currently is no military draft, but 18-year-old men are required to register for possible conscription. About 88 percent are complying. Selective Service wants registrants to list Social Security numbers and access to Social Security Administration files to find out who has not registered.

Supporter Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., said "this chilling effect upon our citizens in utilizing some universal identification number is only the beginning of the erosion of our freedom."

Opponent Bill Nichols, D-Ala., said: "I do not want to send anybody to the penitentiary, but we need to get their attention and it is the Social Security System that is going to help us."

Members voting "yes" opposed requiring draft registrants to provide Social Security numbers.

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

Blanchard and Broomfield voted "nay."

A FEDERAL COMMISSION: The House rejected 201-216 an amendment to kill a \$30,000 appropriation to fund the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission. The panel was formed 26 years ago to plan an FDR memorial in Washington, but despite spending about \$500,000 has been unable to come up with a proposal acceptable to Congress. It was described in debate as the longest-running commission in U.S. history. The bill was sent to the Senate.

Sponsor Dan Glickman, D-Kansas, said "let us end this little bit of nonsense which is costing the taxpayers \$30,000 to \$50,000 per year."

Opponent Sidney Yates, D-Ill., said the commission should be kept alive for one more year and that to terminate it now "will result in the destruction of every attempt to try to provide a worthy memorial for the late, great president."

Members voting "nay" wanted to appropriate \$30,000 for the FDR commission.

Pursell, and Broomfield voted "yea."

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

SENATE

SOCIAL SECURITY: The Senate killed 52-46 an amendment to preserve minimum Social Security Payments for persons now receiving them o scheduled to receive them during 1982. Congress has not yet given the final word, but the vote increases chances that the minimum benefit will be eliminated as early as Aug. 1. The administration has proposed — and the House and Senate in previous votes endorsed — eliminating the minimum \$122 monthly payment to all eligible for old-age benefits. The three million persons affected would have their benefits lowered as a result of recalculations based on earnings history with a safety net extended to the very poor. The vote came during debate on the sweeping tax-cut bill, which was headed toward final passage and House consideration.

Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kansas, a supporter of killing the amendment, said "we are not trying to take anything away from anyone" and that the main issue was austerity — "whether Congress is going to lose its nerve and start backing away from some of the spending cuts for which a large majority in both parties have voted."

Sen. Donald Riegle, D-Mich., who wanted to preserve the minimum benefit, said \$122 monthly "is an absolutely critical amount of money to those people

living in poverty and trying to scrape by, most of whom are very elderly."

Senators voting "yes" wanted to end the minimum Social Security benefit.

Sens. Carl Levin, and Donald Riegle voted "nay."

OIL TAX BREAKS: By a vote of 47-49 against, the Senate refused to kill an amendment to the pending tax cut legislation that would have given the oil industry \$18 to \$20 billion in relief by phasing out over four years the twofold profits tax on newly discovered oil. The amendment later was withdrawn, however, because this vote showed that opponents had sufficient strength to maintain a filibuster. An oil tax cut of \$250 million over five years was later approved.

Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.V., a supporter of killing the amendment, called the proposal a windfall for the oil companies "wrapped in the flag of supply-side rhetoric and free market forces."

Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kansas, sponsor of the amendment, asked: "Should there be some penalty imposed on somebody who wants to go out and discover more oil to get away from dependence on foreign sources?"

Senators voting "yes" opposed the larger oil industry tax cuts.

Levin and Riegle voted "yea."

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