

Broomfield opposed

Dems approve loans to bail out mortgages in peril

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes May 5-11.

HOUSE

roll call report

BAILOUT: The House passed, 216-195, and sent to the Senate a bailout bill for recession victims facing foreclosure on their home mortgages. The bill (HR 1983) provides \$750 million in taxpayers' dollars to be loaned at low interest to some 100,000 homeowners unable to make house payments. Recipients would contribute about 35 percent of income toward their payment and the loan would cover the remainder for up to three years. To qualify, homeowners must be delinquent "through no fault of their own," be sufficiently poor, allowing a government lien on their property, and be judged likely to start repaying the Treasury within three years. Supporters called the bill an act of compassion to help innocent recession

victims keep their most essential possession. Opponents labeled the program a budget-buster that is unneeded with economic recovery underway. Supporter Henry Gonzalez, D-Tex., said "We are not talking about a giveaway program or an entitlement program." Opponent Buddy Roemer, D-La., said "This move today is the birth of yet another entitlement, the cost of which we can never calculate." Members voting yes supported special aid for hard-pressed homeowners. Voting yes: Dennis Hertel, D-Detroit, William Ford, D-Taylor, and Sander Levin, D-Southfield. Voting no: Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth

and William Broomfield, R-Birmingham. **GOP PLAN:** By a vote of 197-220, the House rejected a GOP alternative for aiding homeowners threatened by foreclosure. The vote occurred during debate on HR 1983 (above). The GOP plan granted regulatory relief to discourage banks from foreclosing. It killed the \$750 million loan program as well as a mandate in HR 1983 that the secretary of agriculture stop foreclosure on farmers' home loans. It kept intact a \$100 million outlay to care for the homeless. Sponsor Chalmers Wylie, R-Ohio, said the \$750 million loan fund would only induce banks to foreclose. "I am

not ready to add a new federal subsidy program of this magnitude to the federal deficit," he added. Opponent Jim Wright, D-Tex., said encouraging forbearance by banks is no answer because "we have a record of 230,000 foreclosures in the past year in which they have not forborene." Members voting yes favored encouraging banks not to foreclose rather than government loans as the better way to aid homeowners behind in mortgage payments. Voting yes: Pursell and Broomfield. Voting no: Hertel, Ford and Levin.

Supporters called the bailout bill an act of compassion to help innocent victims of the recession.

Voting yes: Pursell and Broomfield. Voting no: Hertel, Ford and Levin.

SENATE

BUDGET: By a tie of 48-48, the Senate rejected a proposal to increase defense spending in the next fiscal year by an inflation-adjusted 6.5 percent. The vote displaced the administration as well as conservative senators. While favoring a larger defense buildup, they were willing to accept 6.5 percent as the best compromise available to them. It came during debate on the 1984 budget resolution (S Con Res 127), the fiscal blueprint that will guide Congress in later individual spending and taxation decisions. S. Con Res 127 awaited final action. President Reagan asked for a 10 percent increase in 1984 defense outlays, to a total of \$24.5 billion. The budget resolution sent to the floor by the Senate Budget Committee recommends a

five percent hike, raising outlays to \$24.5 billion. Most senators voting yes wanted 1984 defense outlays to be increased by at least 6.5 percent in "real" or inflation-adjusted dollars. Voting no: Carl Levin and Donald Riegle, both Democrats.

WEAPONS: By a vote of 74-21, the Senate tabled (killed) an amendment to the fiscal 1984 budget resolution (above) to cut spending for the development of nuclear weapons. Addressing weapons development within the Department of Energy, the amendment sought to limit funding to the fiscal 1983 level. This would have saved about \$2 billion. Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., who voted to kill the amendment, said the amendment was out of place. "Frankly, this budget resolution is not the place to debate a nuclear freeze," he said. Sen. David Pryor, D-Ark., who sponsored the amendment, deplored "a mentality which drives itself to think of every conceivable way to use a nuclear weapon. This kind of thinking is, to put it simply, insane." Senators voting no wanted to use the budget resolution as a vehicle to express their concern over the nuclear arms race. Voting no: Levin and Riegle.

OCC lists Discount program offered senior citizens

A series of enrichment short courses for students in kindergarten to 12th grade and the academically gifted and talented will be offered at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College beginning in late May, July and August.

Course selections run the gamut from basic computer programming to theater to foreign languages.

Registration is in progress. To register call 471-7595.

Oakland County's Senior Discount Program is seeking locations for camera sites to photograph seniors for identification cards.

The cards enable senior citizens of Oakland County to take advantage of discounts offered by local merchants from 4 to 50 percent.

Discounts are offered on a variety of items including automobile parts, rust-proofing, hair care, prescription drugs and eyeglasses.

A directory of participating merchants is now available for sale at the

camera locations and senior centers. It can also be ordered by mail by sending a check for \$1.20 to OLHSA, 196 Oakland Ave., Pontiac 48058.

To participate, persons must be 60 years of age or older and live in Oakland County.

McDonnell Towers will be a camera location from 10 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 24. It is at 24400 Civic Center in Southfield.

For further information, call 858-5171.

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