

# Area congressmen back emergency farm air

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes Feb. 22 through Feb. 23.

## HOUSE

**AID TO FARMERS** — By a vote of 318 for and 103 against, the House approved emergency financial aid to tens of thousands of American farmers, many of whom say they will go bankrupt if not immediately bailed out of their credit problems by the government.

President Reagan has threatened to veto the bill as a budget-buster. The administration says it will cost at least \$1.8 billion over the next two years. The Congressional Budget Office estimates the cost at \$485 million over five years.

The bill (HR 1035) provides an additional \$3 billion in loan guarantees to farmers who need the federal backing to continue borrowing. Also, it permits

farmers to get half of their price-support loans on this year's crop, up to \$50,000, before spring planting.

Among other provisions, the bill induces banks to offer lower interest rates on federally-guaranteed loans, and makes it easier for farmers in certain areas to obtain low-interest Farm-ers Home Administration disaster loans.

Supporter Thomas Coleman, R-Mo., said "this is not just a farm bill" because "almost 23 million people in this country depend for their job directly or indirectly on agribusiness and agriculture."

Opponent Delbert Latta, R-Ohio, said the bill would worsen the federal deficit, thus contributing to the high interest rates and strong dollar that have injured farm exports.

Members voting yes favored the bill. Voting yes: Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth, Dennis Hertel, D-Harper Woods,

## rollcall report

William Ford, D-Taylor, Sander Levin, D-Southfield.

**AID TO FAMINE COUNTRIES** — The House passed, 391 for and 25 against, and sent to the Senate a bill (HR-1096) authorizing \$175 million in emergency, non-food aid to African nations beset by famine.

In part, the fiscal 1983 outlay would fund programs to upgrade health care and to monitor the distribution of emergency food supplies to starving Africans. Food aid is being provided in separate legislation.

"This is not just an African crisis," said sponsor Howard Wolpe, D-Mich-

igan. "It is a human crisis encompassing us all."

No opponent spoke during floor debate.

Members voting yes favored the special aid to Africa.

Voting yes: Pursell, Hertel, William Ford, Levin, Bloomfield.

Voting no: none.

## SENATE

**AID TO FARMERS** — By a vote of 54 for and 45 against, the Senate approved a bailout program for hard-pressed farmers that was essentially the same as the rescue package approved by the House (above).

Among its key features, the Senate

legislation increases federal loan guarantees for farmers and releases a portion of Commodity Credit Corp. loans in advance of spring planting. Also, it helps banks subsidize interest rates on certain federally-guaranteed farm loans.

The Senate plan was attached to an African famine relief bill (HR-1096) that later was passed and sent to conference with the House.

Supporter James Exon, D-Neb., called the bill "a Band-aid approach at best" that amounts to "providing some loan money to help people out of a particularly critical situation."

Opponent Robert Dole, R-Kan., said approval of the legislation would "signal that we really do not care about deficit reduction."

Senators voting yes favored the rescue plan for farmers.

Voting yes: Carl Levin, Donald Riegle.

**FARMER AID & DEFICIT** — The Senate rejected, 48 for and 55 against, an amendment to prevent the farm rescue plan (above) from taking effect if it would increase the federal deficit.

Estimates are that the House and Senate versions of the legislation would cost between \$485 million and several billion dollars over several years.

Sponsor Phil Gramm, R-Tex., said "in this amendment I give members an opportunity to say where they stand on the deficit."

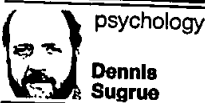
Opponent David Pryor, D-Ark., noted that the farm aid was included in a \$175 million African famine relief measure. He said it would be wrong to increase the deficit in behalf of African farmers while refusing to increase it for American farmers.

Senators voting no wanted the farm aid to be spent despite its impact on the federal deficit.

Voting no: Levin, Riegle.

# Therapist-patient romance unethical

By Dennis P. Sugrue  
special writer



Dennis Sugrue

## psychology

A recent Dudley Moore film, "Love Sick," has been making the rounds on cable television. This romantic comedy involves a psychoanalyst who falls madly in love with one of his patients.

His colleagues, stereotyped as a group of eccentrics, chastise him for his breach of ethics and pressure him to give up his new-found love.

But in the tradition of Hollywood romance stories, love conquers all. Moore leaves his lucrative practice and his wife. He sets off for a new life of treating the indigent, living with his former patient.

Dudley Moore is delightful in most of his movies, and "Love Sick" was no exception.

UNFORTUNATELY, however, the movie made light of an extremely important and serious aspect of psychotherapy — the trust between patients and their therapist.

Under absolutely no circumstance is a romantic relationship between a therapist and patient ethical, and for good reason.

When persons enter into therapy, they make themselves vulnerable. They will likely talk about their dreams, wishes, fears and hidden secrets.

Because of the trust they have in their therapist — a trust that their vulnerability will not be exploited in any way — they can eventually open up in therapy and begin to sort out sensitive, personal issues.

NOT SURPRISINGLY, patients often come to view their therapists in unrealistically flattering terms. The warm, sensitive, reassuring therapist easily comes to represent the ideal parent, a parent who is unconditionally accepting and who has the power to "make everything all right."

The patient seldom sees the real

therapist, only the ideal therapist. The patient doesn't see that the therapist has a hole in his stocking, or that he becomes impatient with his children, or that he can be disinterested in his spouse's description of her day.

If a therapist allowed a romantic relationship to develop with a patient, the relationship would be the psychological equivalent of incest.

The therapist would have the unfair advantage of being in the powerful position of knowing all the patient's vulnerabilities; the patient would probably be in love with an imagined ideal parent, not a real person.

DUDLEY MOORE attempted to circumvent his breach of ethics by removing himself as his girlfriend's therapist and by referring her to another therapist.

However, even if therapy had been ended for 10 years, a romantic relationship between a therapist and former patient would still be unethical for

the same reasons described above.

Should a therapist violate a patient's trust, he or she risks losing the license to practice and faces civil lawsuit. More importantly, that violation of trust threatens to do significant psychological harm to the patient.

Fortunately, the overwhelming majority of real-life therapists are highly ethical and will not allow a "Love Sick" situation to occur. Most therapists are committed to the concept that psychotherapy is a healing process in which the well-being of the patient must be carefully protected.

I much prefer watching Dudley Moore chasing after Bo Derek to the tune of "Boleto" than seeing him create doubts in the general public about the integrity of psychotherapy.

Dennis Sugrue, Ph.D., is a Farmington Hills resident and a clinical psychologist at Henry Ford Hospital.

# Have votes to override veto, say life backers

The Michigan Senate last week completed action on a bill cutting off Medicaid funding for abortions, sending the bill on to Gov. James J. Blanchard for an expected veto.

The vote was 25-8 with four senators absent. The favorable vote was beyond the two-thirds necessary to override Blanchard's expected veto.

An override attempt of the expected veto probably will take place early in March. The same measure has been passed 13 times under two governors and vetoed each time. This year right-to-life proponents say they have the votes to override.

**FAVORING** House Bill 4007 were local Sens. Doug Cruse, R-Troy; Richard Fessler, R-West Bloomfield; R. Robert Geake, R-North-

ville; Patrick McCollough, D-Deerborn; and Rudy Nichols, R-Waterford.

Opposed was Jack Faxon, R-Farmington Hills. Absent was William Faust, D-Westland, who has favored the bill in earlier votes.

Sponsored by Rep. Michael Griffin, D-Jackson, the bill would cut off federal and state Medicaid funds to pay for abortions for women on the welfare rolls. The House has passed the measure 77-32.

**THE SENATE** rejected one amendment — which would have allowed Medicaid abortions in cases of rape or incest — by a 23-10 vote. On that amendment, Fessler crossed over to vote with Faxon and the minority.

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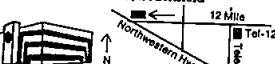
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