

## Roll Call Report

Here's how Observer & Eccentric-area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes in the week ending Oct. 13.

### HOUSE:

**ABORTION** — The House adopted, 216 for and 208 against, an amendment to broaden federal abortion policy by permitting Medicaid funding of the medical procedure when the pregnancy results from rape or incest. The language was attached to a fiscal 1990 appropriations bill (H.R. 2990). Medicaid now covers only those abortions necessary to save the mother's life.

Supporter Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., said "Congress cannot and must not turn its back on the poorest victims of rape and incest who become pregnant."

Opponent Henry Hyde, R-Ill., said "rape and incest are tragedies. But why visit on the second victim, the unborn child that is the product of (the) criminal act, capital punishment?"

Members voting yes supported Medicaid funding of abortion if the pregnancy is by reason of rape or incest.

Michigan congressmen voting yes were: Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth; William Ford, D-Taylor; and Sander Levin, D-Southfield.

Those voting no were: Dennis Hertel, D-Harper Woods; and William Broomfield, R-Lake Orion.

**TO PROTECT THE FLAG** — By a vote of 371 for and 43 against, the House sent to President Bush a bill (H.R. 2078) making it a federal crime to physically damage the American flag. Also due for congressional votes this year are proposals backed by conservatives to protect the flag by constitutional amendment. The legislative activity is in response to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling this year that flag desecration is political expression protected by the Constitution.

Supporter Don Edwards, D-Calif., said it is better "to protect the flag by a simple statute than to go through the mammoth and dangerous procedure of weakening for the first time in our history the free speech provisions of the Bill of Rights."

Opponent Bob Michel, R-Ill., said, "If you really want to protect the flag, if you really want to do something more than make a gesture, then given the court's decision you have to support our bipartisan constitutional amendment to save the flag."

Members voting yes were: Pursell, Hertel, William Ford, Levin and Broomfield, R-Lake Orion.

### SENATE:

**FUNDING THE ARTS** — By a vote of 62 for and 35 against, the Senate chose the less strict of two proposals before it for prohibiting federal funding of art judged by some to be morally offensive. The vote retained language preventing National Endowment for the Arts funding of works judged by the NEA chairman to be obscene and devoid of artistic merit. It killed stronger language shifting the decision on what is obscene from the NEA to an unspecified authority elsewhere in the federal government. The vote occurred during debate on a fiscal 1990 appropriations bill (H.R. 2788).

Dale Bumpers, D-Ark., said, "Every country on earth that has ever had a dictator, the first thing they want to do is control art, literature and the judicial system."

Jesse Helms, R-N.C., who authored the stricter approach, urged support from colleagues who "agree that funding such disgusting materials with the taxpayers' money is outrageous."

Senators voting yes opposed the Helms amendment.

Michigan Senators Carl Levin and Donald Riegle voted yes.

**CATASTROPHIC CARE** — By a vote of 26 for and 73 against, the Senate refused to repeal a 14-month-old law protecting Medicare participants against catastrophic doctor, hospital and prescription drug costs. The vote occurred during debate on an omnibus budget bill (H.R. 2990). It cleared the way for Senate approval of a scaled-back catastrophic plan that, in part, retains a ceiling on hospital costs but eliminates the 1988 law's protections against runaway doctor and drug costs.

The new Senate measure also eliminates the income tax surcharge on Medicare beneficiaries designed to pay most of the costs of the 1988 law. It now must be reconciled with recent House action to repeal all of the catastrophic provisions enacted last year with strong support from the House and Senate and the Reagan Administration.

Richard Shelby, D-Ala., said "Congress must admit, as I do, that we made a mistake and vote to repeal the act."

John Rockefeller, D-W.Va., said "If we repeal, we are signaling to seniors all over this country that we do not have...the guts to face up to the problem" of catastrophic medical costs.

Senators voting yes wanted to repeal the 1988 Catastrophic Coverage Act.

Both Michigan Senators Levin and Riegle voted no.

## Common Ground gets Kresge grant

Common Ground, Oakland County's crisis intervention agency, has been awarded a \$50,000 challenge grant from the Kresge Foundation toward its capital fund drive. The Kresge Foundation funds will assist in the purchase and renovation of Common Ground's building at 751 Hendrie Blvd. in Royal Oak. The grant is one of 140 grants awarded thus far by the Kresge Foundation in 1989.

Shirley K. Schiefer of Bloomfield Hills is the honorary chairwoman of Common Ground's Capital Fund Drive. The goal of the campaign is \$492,000. To date \$300,000 has been raised.

Kay White of Birmingham, chairwoman of Common Ground's board of directors, said, "We are very proud to be recipients of the Kresge Challenge grant. We also have been

pleased with the community support of our fund drive and anticipate that we will successfully reach our goal of \$492,000 by the deadline date of Dec. 31, 1990."

Common Ground is a 24-hour crisis intervention and multi-service agency. The agency offers a crisis counseling program, medical and legal clinics, a crime victim assistance program and prevention programs for children and teens. It was founded in 1970 and moved from Birmingham to its new building in Royal Oak last January. In 1988, the agency served over 20,000 people from the tri-county area.

The Kresge foundation is an independent foundation created by the personal gifts of Sebastian S. Kresge. It is not affiliated with any corporation or organization.

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<b>Birmingham</b> <b>Moss-Lipinski Florist</b> 151 S. Bates 646-7272 FTD All Major Credit Cards	<b>Livonia</b> <b>Cardwell Florist</b> 32109 Plymouth Rd. N. Mile W. of Meridian 421-3567 FTD Teleflora	<b>Livonia</b> <b>Livonia Florist</b> Merri's Plaza 422-1313 Major Credit Cards Accepted Teleflora	<b>Redford</b> <b>Floyd's Flowers, Inc.</b> 25096 S. Mile Rd. 535-4934
<b>Farmington Hills</b> <b>McFarland's Florist &amp; Greenhouses</b> 28915 Grand River 474-0750 FTD Major Credit Cards	<b>Livonia</b> <b>French's Flowers and Gifts</b> 33045 Five Mile In the New Circle Center Plaza 427-7820 FTD All Major Credit Cards	<b>Livonia</b> <b>Merri-Craft Florist</b> Harrigan's Inc. 18955 Meridian Rd. 427-1410	<b>Redford Twp</b> <b>Flowers by Sandino</b> 25801 Plymouth Rd. 937-1120
<b>Farmington Hills</b> <b>Schroeter's Flowers &amp; Gifts</b> 28214 Orchard Lake Rd. 851-0222	<b>Livonia</b> <b>Irish Rose Florist</b> 32608 7 Mile Just West of Farmington Rd. 478-5144 Wire Service • Visa • MC • Amer. Exp.	<b>Livonia</b> <b>Plaza Florist and Gifts</b> 37247 W. Six Mile 464-7272 Located in the West Mall in Newburgh Plaza	<b>Southfield</b> <b>ARLYNE CHERBINS</b> 29215 Northwestern 357-2030 239 Pierce, Birmingham 647-2888 New Flowers for Love and Wedding Services
<b>Farmington Hills</b> <b>Hearts and Roses, Inc.</b> 33238 W. 12 Mile (1/4 Farmington, West to Oakley) 553-7699 AFS TELEFLORA FTD	<b>Livonia</b> <b>Susie's Flowers and Gifts</b> 37613 S. Mile Rd. 464-4588 Serving the Livonia, Farmington, AFS Teleflora FTD	<b>Westland</b> <b>Blevin's Flower Shop</b> 8015 Middlebelt (N. of Ann Arbor Trail across from Farmer Jack) 427-4110 We carry all Major Credit Cards Wholesale Delivery	<b>Wayne</b> <b>Keller &amp; Stein's</b> Flower Shop & Greenhouse, Inc. 42155 Michigan Ave. 397-0800 Serving Wayne, Westland, Canton and 43 Suburbs Daily
<b>Northville</b> <b>Highland Lakes Florist &amp; Cards</b> 4235 W. 7 Mile Rd. 349-8144 (In Highland Lakes Shopping Center) Serving the Northville, Farmington, Canton and 43 Suburbs Daily Charge by Phone			

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