

**ROLL CALL REPORT**

# Senate blocks Treasury from paying for bilingual ballots

**Here's how Observer & Eccentric-area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes in the week ending Aug. 14**

**SENATE**

**No on paying for bilingual ballots:** By a vote of 35 for and 60 against, the Senate refused to make the U.S. Treasury pick up the costs incurred by states and localities in complying with bilingual ballot legislation (HR 4312). Sponsor Alan Simpson, R-Wyo., said "if Congress believes that requiring bilingual ballots is a good thing... we should have the conviction to

find the money to pay for it." Opponent Paul Simon, D-Ill., said "this is not something that is being demanded by local jurisdictions, because the costs are so minor." A yes vote supported federal payment of the cost of bilingual election materials. Sens. Carl Levin, D, and Donald Riegle, D, voted no.

**Yes on transportation appropriations:** By a vote of 74 for and 22 against, the Senate approved a bill to appropriate \$13.5 billion for the Department of Transportation and related agencies in fiscal 1993, including \$282 million for the Federal

Highway Administration. While the Senate version of the bill (HR 5518) authorizes no new congressionally mandated highways, it provides nearly \$300 million for demonstration projects previously authorized by Congress. Additionally, the measure allows the states to sign up to \$18 billion in fiscal year 1993 road building contracts financed by the Highway Trust Fund. The bill was sent to conference with a House version that caps trust fund spending at \$16.7 billion.

**Yes on aid to Bosnia:** The Senate passed, 74 for and

22 against, a non-binding resolution (S Res 330) urging the United Nations to use multinational military force to ensure that emergency food and medicine reaches civilians in war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina.

**Yes vote to approve the resolution:** Carl Levin and Riegle voted yes.

**No vote cuts SDI:** The Senate failed, 43 for and 49 against, to spend even more money for the Strategic Defense Initiative during debate on a fiscal 1993 defense budget of \$274 billion (S 3114).

**Malcolm Wallop, R-Wyo., who supported spending more, said Patriot missile performance in the Gulf War showed**

"that some defense is substantially greater than no defense at all."

**Yes to expand IRAs:** The Senate voted 72 for and 25 against to expand individual retirement account tax benefits. This retained language in pending tax legislation (HR 11)

sharply raising income limits for the full \$2,000 IRA deduction. This new limits would be \$120,000 for couples and \$80,000 for individuals, up from \$40,000 and \$25,000.

**A yes vote was to expand IRAs.** Carl Levin and Riegle voted yes.

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