

House Ok's expanded use of DNA analysis

Here's how *Observer* & *Economic-area members of Congress* were recorded on major roll call votes in the week ending April 5.

HOUSE

Yes on money for genetic code analysis: By a vote of 374 for and 4 against, the House sent the Senate a bill (HR 829) authorizing nearly \$15 million annually to improve the ability of law enforcement agencies to use DNA analysis of blood and hair samples in crime-fighting. The FBI would get \$4.5 million for activities such as developing a national data bank of convicted criminals' genetic codes. States would get \$10 million collectively in grants to establish DNA analysis labs that would be overseen by the FBI and held to federal privacy and proficiency standards.

Supporter Henry Hyde, R-Ill., said the bill "will guarantee that DNA analysis will be an accurate and reliable tool for courtroom use."

Yes to expand FBI telephone access: By a vote of 367 for and six against, the House sent the Senate a bill (HR 175) expanding the FBI's power to obtain, without court warrants, telephone records and conversations in probes of international terrorism and espionage.

The bill grants the FBI access in such investigations to information on unlisted numbers that phone companies cannot presently divulge. It also enables FBI counter-intelligence agents to obtain a broader range of telephone conversations involving suspected terrorists and spies.

Supporter Ronald Coleman, D-Texas, said the bill strikes "a delicate balance between (giving) the FBI the means to fight terrorism and espionage and our responsibility to protect individuals from unreasonable intrusion by the government."

No opponent spoke against the bill.

A yes vote was to pass the bill. Area representatives voting yes were: Carr, Klidde, Knoienberg, Levin and William Ford.

SENATE

Fillbuster extended: The Senate failed, 49 for and 29

Senior spring festival set

A chance to have some fun and at the same time help poor senior citizens living in the Cass Corridor and elsewhere arrives with the 6th Annual St. Patrick Senior Center's Spring Festival.

Continuous Irish entertainment is on tap 2-9 p.m. Sunday, April 25. Food and beverages will be served. The donation is \$3 for adults and \$1 for older children.

St. Pat's is at 68 Parsons, directly behind Orchestra Hall off Woodward Avenue in Detroit.

For 16 years, our Senior Center has provided for the very poor citizens of the Cass Corridor a daily, fully nutritionally balanced dinner," said Ed Neuberger of Birmingham, St. Pat's publicity chairman.

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against, to achieve the super-majority required to end a GOP filibuster against President Clinton's proposal to provide more than \$19 billion this fiscal year in borrowed money to create jobs, spark the economy and set in motion a long-term recovery program aimed at curbing the deficit.

Democrats needed 60 votes to get by the GOP roadblock. Now they must compromise away some of the spending if they are to ad-

vance the bill (HR 1335) after the current Easter/Passover recess. Least disputed is \$4 billion in the bill for the long-term unemployed. Most controversial is \$2.5 billion in grants to cities for public works that Republicans can pork barrel.

The bill also provides \$3 billion for highway building, \$2.6 billion for small business loans, \$1.9 billion in Pell Grants to needy college students, \$1.7 billion for loans and

grants for water and sewage facilities, \$1 billion for summer jobs for city youth, \$737 million for mass transit including the new Metrolink, \$735 million for compensatory education, \$500 million for Head Start and \$300 million for immunizing children.

Majority Leader George Mitchell, D-Maine, said "the president's economic plan is a coherent whole. It does call for some increased spending. But that . . . is more

than offset by an amount in excess of \$200 billion in spending cuts" over five years.

Minority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., said "there is just a fundamental difference in our parties. The Democrats like to tax and tax and tax and spend and spend and spend, and we like to cut spending first."

A yes vote supported the bill. Michigan Sens. Levin and Riegle voted yes.

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