

## HOUSE VOTES

### **1 CLASS Act Repeal**

The House passed legislation, introduced by Rep. Boustany, R-LA, to repeal the Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS) Act. The CLASS Act, part of the 2010 Affordable Care Act, included several pro-retiree provisions that would establish a voluntary system to fund long term supports and services. The bill passed 267-159. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 1173, Roll Call No. 18, February 1, 2012.

### **2 Limit Victims' Rights**

This bill, introduced by Rep. Gingrey, R-GA, would place national caps on some damages in medical malpractice cases and create a national 3 year statute of limitations, overriding many state laws. The bill caps non-economic awards at \$250,000. The legislation is especially unfair to older Americans, because retirees often have only non-economic injuries since they are no longer working. The bill passed 223-181. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 5, Roll Call No. 126, March 22, 2012.

### **3 Political Ads Disclosure**

Rep. Eshoo, D-CA, offered an amendment to a federal communications bill that would require groups sponsoring political programming to disclose the names of donors that gave more than \$10,000 to the programming sponsoring group in an election cycle. Broadcasters would have to make such disclosures publicly available for inspection. The amendment failed 179-238. A **YES** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 3309, Roll Call No. 135, March 27, 2012.

### **4 Medicare Privatization**

The House passed a budget resolution, introduced by Rep. Ryan, R-WI, that replaces the guaranteed benefits of Medicare with a privatized system. Under the Ryan plan, Medicare would be privatized, voucher-like payments would go to insurance companies and seniors would have significantly higher out of pocket costs. The plan also created a fast track process for Social Security cuts. The resolution passed 228-191. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H. Con. Res. 112, Roll Call No. 151, March 29, 2012.

### **5 Legal Services Funding Cuts**

Rep. Westmoreland, R-GA, offered an amendment to a spending bill that would reduce funding for the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) by \$128 million. Many seniors rely on the LSC for vital help in areas such as eligibility for benefits and housing. The amendment failed 165-246. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 5326, Roll Call No. 218, May 9, 2012.

### **6 Senior Programs Cuts**

The House passed a bill, introduced by Rep. Ryan, R-WI, that replaced the 2011 sequester formula of equal domestic and defense cuts with cuts only to domestic spending, meaning that even greater cuts than those under the sequester formula would

occur. The bill also would repeal parts of the Affordable Care Act along with lower spending on many programs vital to retirees. The bill passed 218-199. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 5652, Roll Call No. 247, May 10, 2012.

### **7 Health Care Repeal**

The House passed health care reform repeal legislation, introduced by Rep. Cantor, R-VA. The 2010 Affordable Care Act included several pro-retiree provisions including the elimination of co-pays and deductibles for preventive care screenings and an annual wellness checkup beginning in 2011. The law also included the closing of the Part D doughnut hole coverage gap, the phasing out of overpayments to Medicare Advantage insurance companies, and incentives for employers to maintain early retiree health care coverage. The bill passed 244-185. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 6079, Roll Call No. 460, July 11, 2012.

### **8 Fair Tax Rates**

Rep. Levin, D-MI, offered an amendment to a tax bill that would extend existing tax rates on incomes below \$200,000 for single filers and \$250,000 for joint filers. Wealthier Americans would see the Bush tax cuts repealed and pay higher rates. The new rates bring more fairness and progressivity to the tax code. The amendment failed 170-257. A **YES** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 8, Roll Call No. 543, August 1, 2012.

### **9 Skewed Tax Rates**

The House passed a bill, introduced by Rep. Dreier, R-CA, that would create a fast track for tax legislation meeting certain criteria. Included among those criteria were requirements for only two income tax rates of 10% and 25%, a maximum corporate tax rate of 25% and repeal of the alternative minimum tax. All these provisions skew the tax code to the benefit of the wealthiest Americans. The bill passed 232-189. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 6169, Roll Call No. 552, August 2, 2012

### **10 Sequestration Replacement**

The House passed a bill, introduced by Rep. West, R-FL, that replaced the 2011 sequestration formula. The bill included provisions that further decreased domestic spending while increasing military spending. The legislation also preserved the Bush tax cuts benefiting the wealthiest Americans. The bill passed 223-196. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 6365, Roll Call No. 577, September 13, 2012.