



This clipping shows some of the earliest votes cast by Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton, D-D.C., on the House floor.

When Democrats are in the majority, they allow the six House delegates to vote when the chamber is meeting as the Committee of the Whole. But if the delegates' yeas or nays determine the outcome of vote, a revote without their participation is required when the House returns to regular session.

Although the voting right is largely symbolic, a Washington Post editorial (11/19/1994) said it gives Norton "the chance to register the will of more than 600,000 taxpaying Americans," while a New York Times editorial (12/31/1994) called it a hedge against "more colonialism" in the federal city.

Evolution of D.C. Voting in U.S. House

January 5, 1993 The House grants delegates limited floor voting rights in the 103rd Congress. Republicans challenge the new rule as unconstitutional.

March 1993 U.S. District Judge Harold H. Greene upholds the change in Michel v. Anderson.

Jan. 25, 1994 The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia affirms his ruling.

Feb. 3, 1994 Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton, D-D.C., casts her first vote on the House floor.

1995-2018 Delegates' floor voting rights come and go depending on party control of the House.

Jan. 30, 2019 Norton casts her first floor vote of the 116th Congress.

FOR THE RECORD

The following report shows how key issues fared recently in the House and the votes of Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.). Delegates can vote only in the Committee of the Whole.

GOP BUDGET For-165/Against-243

To reject the main Republican alternative to the fiscal year '95 Democratic budget. It projected a deficit of \$162.6 billion, compared with the Democrats' estimated \$175.3 billion deficit. It provided a \$500-per-child tax credit to the middle class, cut or killed hundreds of domestic programs and spent more on defense and less on foreign aid. A yes vote supported the main Republican budget.

Norton — No

BALANCED BUDGET For-73/Against-342

To reject a proposal by Gerald B.H. Solomon (R-N.Y.) to balance the federal budget in five years, mainly through massive budget cuts and program terminations. A yes vote supported the Solomon budget.

Norton — No

BLACK CAUCUS BUDGET For-81/Against-326

To reject the Congressional Black Caucus budget, which differed from the Democratic plan mainly by spending less for defense and more on domestic programs over five years. Those savings were to be diverted to social programs such as health, education and crime prevention. Another distinguishing feature was a proposed 20 percent tax on the sale of assault weapons, handguns and ammunition. A yes vote was to adopt the budget.

Norton — Yes

THE BARTON PLAN For-213/Against-215

To fail to achieve the two-thirds majority needed to pass a balanced budget constitutional amendment 'v Joe Barton (R Tex.) that 'red three-fif' majoritir House

THE WISE PLAN For-111/Against-318

To reject a constitutional amendment by Robert E. Wise Jr. (D-W.Va.) requiring the federal operating budget to be balanced but not the capital budget. It allowed red ink for capital improvements promoting long-term economic growth. A yes vote supported the amendment.

Norton — No

TOBACCO EDUCATION For-353/Against-70

To adopt an amendment requiring schools receiving funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to instruct against smoking just as they do against drugs and alcohol. A yes vote was to step up anti-tobacco instruction in public schools.

Norton — Yes

HAWAII For-203/Against-213

To refuse to kill a federal education program that spends \$13 million annually to instruct Hawaiians in their native culture. A yes vote was to eliminate the program.

Norton — No

IMMIGRATION ISSUE For-78/Against-329

To reject an amendment requiring school districts to tally and report the number of students who are illegal aliens or have parents who are not legal U.S. residents. A yes vote favored the counting requirement.

Norton — No

PUERTO RICO For-76/Against-340

To reject a change in the formula for allocating funds to Puerto Rico under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The amendment sought to provide the commonwealth with a larger share of federal funds for disadvantaged students. The ex...