

The Votes in Congress Service

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Dear Editor,

During the height of the Watergate scandal an alarmed public demanded increased scrutiny of both Congress and the White House. In response, newspapers began more vigilant Washington coverage, and The Votes in Congress Service was established to aid that effort.

Today, with crises collectively far worse than Watergate facing the United States, The Votes in Congress Service is still going strong, reporting concisely, accurately and in plain English the key information editors and readers need to hold individual lawmakers answerable for their stands. We believe more than ever that every newspaper in America owes its readers this basic level of localized Capitol Hill accountability coverage.

The new administration and Congress are drastically redefining the role of the federal government, and as you read this letter, your local lawmakers are casting votes to advance or thwart the changeover. Civic-minded readers, fearful of their own and their country's future, are once again truly alarmed — even angry — and are counting on newspapers to provide rigorous scrutiny of these developments.

So now is the time for you to begin using The Votes in Congress Service as a mainstay of your D.C. coverage. The following are major reasons why, though we can (and gladly will) provide more. Our service:

Fills Coverage Gaps: With many Washington bureaus now closing and the Capitol Hill press corps shrinking, we help you plug widening coverage gaps at an attractive rate.

Fits Recession Budgets: For newsprint editions, most subscriptions are priced between \$790 and \$1,820 annually, depending on circulation, with rates for digital editions even more affordable.

Reports a Local-Angle Story: We report on lawmakers who are local figures and we keep readers abreast of everyday issues, from health care to jobs to taxes to safety. Our reports regularly suggest local leads to staff reporters and editorial writers.

Provides Print and Digital Coverage: Newsprint subscribers receive either a paginated graphic or straight text that can be quickly edited to fit any news hole. Digital sites receive a link targeted to their state, branded with their logo and containing current and archival voting information.

Contact us today to obtain more information about our service, request a sample transmission, or receive links showing our online coverage.

Sincerely,



Richard G. Thomas
Editor