

HOW THEY VOTED

Here's how area members of Congress voted on major issues in the week ending May 6. NV means "did not vote."

HOUSE

Tax policies against abortion

Voting 251-175, the House on May 4 sent the Senate a bill (HR 3) that would use the U.S. tax code as a tool against abortions except those performed in cases of rape or incest or to save the life of the mother. The bill would bar women from deducting abortion-related medical expenses from their taxable income. The bill also would bar tax credits that employers and others receive for the cost of providing employee medical insurance if the insurance covers abortion services. Additionally, the bill makes the Hyde Amendment permanent law rather than one that needs annual renewal. That amendment, which bars the use of federal funds to pay for abortions except in cases of rape or incest or to protect the mother's life, has been federal law since 1976. Abortion is a legal medical procedure under the Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling.

A yes vote was to pass the bill.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Susan Davis D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bob Filner D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duncan Hunter R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Darrell Issa R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Rape, incest, taxes

Voting 192-235, the House on May 4 defeated a Democratic motion to bar the IRS from accessing personal medical records to establish for tax purposes whether a woman was a victim of rape or incest. The motion was in response to language in HR 3 (above) that excludes abortion costs as deductible medical expenses on personal income-tax returns except in cases of rape or incest or when the mother's life is at risk.

Jackie Speier, D-Calif., said, "How can we possibly ask a woman who has suffered an horrific crime to now face scrutiny by an IRS audit?"

Trent Franks, R-Ariz., said, "Nothing in this bill allows the IRS any greater access to health information than they have ever had. (Federal privacy protection) is still in place."

A yes vote backed the motion.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Susan Davis D	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bob Filner D	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duncan Hunter R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Darrell Issa R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

State health exchanges

Voting 238-183, the House on May 3 passed a bill (HR 1213) to prohibit spending to establish the state-run exchanges that will become core elements of the new health law starting in 2014. The bill would lower spending by \$13 billion over five years and apply the savings to deficit reduction. It would also have the effect of expanding federal involvement in U.S. health care, because the law requires the federal government to establish exchanges in states that fail to do so. To date, 49 states and the District of Columbia have received \$54 million in federal grants for early planning of their exchanges.

The exchanges targeted by this bill are designed mainly to supply private insurance to the self-employed and employees of small businesses, enabling them and their families to obtain affordable policies that meet federal standards. By assembling large pools of policyholders, the exchanges are designed to spread risk, drive down premium rates and create profitable markets for insurance firms.

A yes vote was to pass the bill.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Susan Davis D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bob Filner D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duncan Hunter R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Darrell Issa R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

School-based health clinics

Voting 235-191, the House on May 4 sent the Senate a bill (HR 1214) to defund a program in the new health law that finances the construction of preventive-care clinics at schools. These wellness clinics are intended to provide primary care, dental services

and mental-health care for youths who otherwise would not receive early medical attention, and thus cut health care costs in the long run. The new health law provides \$200 million over several years in mandatory spending for the construction program, about \$100 million of which has been obligated. This bill would block release of the remaining \$100 million and use the savings to pay down the national debt. About 350 school-based clinics in 46 states have applied for construction funds to date.

A yes vote was to pass the bill.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Susan Davis D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bob Filner D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duncan Hunter R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Darrell Issa R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Offshore energy drilling

Voting 266-149, the House on May 5 passed a bill (HR 1230) setting deadlines for the administration to auction certain Outer Continental Shelf leases for oil and gas exploration that were delayed for environmental and safety reasons after last year's BP-Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. The bill requires leases in the central and western Gulf of Mexico and Virginia to be auctioned within one year of enactment or sooner.

A yes vote was to pass the bill.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Susan Davis D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bob Filner D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duncan Hunter R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Darrell Issa R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Oil industry tax breaks

Voting 241-171, the House

on May 5 blocked a bid by Democrats to force a direct vote on their amendment to end at least \$30 billion in oil-industry tax breaks and use the savings to cut taxes for all corporations as a spur for them to produce jobs. Democrats used this procedural tactic after Republican leaders denied their request for a direct vote on attaching the amendment to HR 1230 (above).

A yes vote was to block the Democratic amendment.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Susan Davis D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bob Filner D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duncan Hunter R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Darrell Issa R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SENATE

Judge confirmation

On a party-line vote of 50-44, the Senate on May 4 confirmed John J. McConnell, 52, as a judge on the U.S. District Court for Rhode Island. Republicans based their unanimous opposition mainly on his background as a Democratic Party activist with a long record of suing businesses as a plaintiff's attorney. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce opposed the nomination. A yes vote was to confirm McConnell.

	Yes	No	NV
Barbara Boxer D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dianne Feinstein D	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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