

How your lawmakers voted

Here's how local members of Congress voted on major issues in the week ending Friday. (NV means "did not vote.")

HOUSE

CONGRESSIONAL PAY FREEZE
The House on Tuesday voted, 402-15, to join the Senate in blocking a congressional pay raise set for January 2011. The bill, HR 5146, will freeze salaries at levels in effect since January 2009, which are \$174,000 for rank-and-file members, \$193,400 for the House and Senate majority and minority leaders and the Senate president pro tempore, and \$223,500 for the House speaker. Under federal law, lawmakers automatically receive cost-of-living increases each January unless they vote to block them.

Other top federal salaries are \$400,000 for the president, \$230,700 for the vice president, \$223,500 for the chief justice, \$213,900 for associate Supreme Court justices, \$199,700 for Cabinet officers, \$184,500 for appellate judges and \$174,000 for U.S. District judges. When Congress freezes its own pay, it usually follows up by freezing other top salaries, as well.

No member spoke against the bill. A "yes" vote was to freeze congressional pay.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray, R	■	□	□
Susan Davis, D	■	□	□
Bob Filner, D	■	□	□
Duncan Hunter, R	■	□	□
Darrell Issa, R	■	□	□

PUERTO RICO STATUS

Voting 223-169, the House on Thursday passed a bill, HR 2499, authorizing Puerto Rico to hold a plebiscite on whether it wishes to remain a U.S. territory or seek independence or statehood. If the mandate is for change, a second vote would be held to determine the new status. However, only Congress could grant statehood. Although Puerto Rico's 4.1 million residents are U.S. citizens, they lack voting representation in Congress and cannot vote in presidential elections, among other exceptions to full citizenship.

A "yes" vote was to pass the bill.

	Yes	No	NV
Bilbray	□	■	□
Davis	■	□	□
Filner	□	□	■
Hunter	□	■	□
Issa	■	□	□

ENGLISH AS OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Voting 198-194, the House on Thursday refused to stipulate English as Puerto Rico's official language if it were to choose statehood under HR 2499 (above). The motion also sought to affirm residents' Second Amendment rights if Puerto Rico becomes a state.

A "yes" vote backed the motion.

	Yes	No	NV
Bilbray	■	□	□
Davis	□	■	□
Filner	□	□	■
Hunter	■	□	□
Issa	■	□	□