

# SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

March 29, 2010

Here's how area members of Congress voted on major issues in the week ending March 26. NV means "did not vote."

## HOUSE

### HEALTH BILL PASSAGE

Voting 219-212, the House on March 21 sent President Barack Obama a Senate-passed bill (HR 3590) overhauling American health care, which he signed into law March 24. The House also sent the Senate a bill (HR 4872, below) containing changes in the new law requested by House Democrats. This year's final health care law will be a combination of the two measures.

The bill approved by this vote would make medical policies available to 31 million uninsured, legal U.S. residents while outlawing insurance-company practices such as denying coverage on the basis of pre-existing conditions. When the bill reaches its full effect years from now, 94 percent of persons not covered by Medicare would have health insurance, compared to 83 percent in 2009. The bill is projected to cost \$871 billion over 10 years, but would pay for itself and reduce annual deficits by \$132 billion over that period.

A "yes" vote was to pass the bill.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 D. 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"/>

### HEALTH BILL CHANGES

The House on March 21 passed, 220-211, a bill (HR 4872) similar to HR 3590 (above) but with changes designed to attract wavering Democrats. The bill contains an unrelated measure that would shift student loans to a system of direct lending by the Department of Education, excluding the private-sector lenders who now dominate the government program. This would save more than \$80 billion over 10 years, with most of the savings used to expand the Pell Grants by which low-income youths pay for college tuition.

A "yes" vote was to pass the bill.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 D. 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"/>

## How your lawmakers voted

### ABORTION DISPUTE

Voting 232-199, the House on March 21 defeated a Republican bid to add anti-abortion language to HR 4872 (above). Democrats said the new health law would contain "Hyde Amendment" language, which bars federal funding of abortions except in cases of rape or incest or to save the life of the mother, and that Obama will reinforce the Hyde policy by executive order. Republicans said they wanted statutory language that goes beyond the Hyde Amendment. A "yes" vote backed the GOP motion.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 D. 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"/>

### SUMMER JOBS, DISASTER AID

Voting 239-175, the House on March 24 sent the Senate a deficit-spending bill (HR 4899) to provide \$600 million for summer jobs for youths and \$5.1 billion for federal disaster relief. The bill defines the disaster aid as emergency spending and thus exempt from the "pay as you go" law. The bill extends until May a provision of last year's economic stimulus allowing the Small Business Administration to guarantee up to 90 percent of certain loans to companies.

A "yes" vote was to pass the bill.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 D. Hunter R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Darrell Issa R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### JOBS BILL

Voting 246-178, the House on March 24 passed a deficit-neutral bill (HR 4849) providing tax breaks to spur investment in small businesses and public works construction by states and cities. The \$18 billion-plus cost would be offset by other changes in the tax code. Under the bill, those who make certain small-business investments before Dec. 31 would receive a 100 percent exemption from capital-gains taxes on stock held for at least five years. The bill would extend to April 2013 the Build America Bond program in which the Treasury subsidizes interest paid by state and local governments on taxable bonds issued for capital improvements. The bill extends through 2011 the Recovery Zone Bonds created by last year's economic stimulus. This program subsidizes interest on bonds issued for economic development in poor neighborhoods and high-foreclosure areas.

The bill would raise \$7.7 billion through 2020 by closing a loophole that some U.S. subsidiaries of foreign corporations use to avoid U.S. taxes; \$4.5 billion through 2020 by cracking down on the use of certain annuity trusts to avoid gift taxes; and \$2.5 billion through 2020 by toughening income-reporting requirements on landlords earning more than \$600 annually in rental income.

A "yes" vote was to pass the bill.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 D. 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"/>

### HEALTH CARE REPEAL

Voting 239-184, the House on March 24 defeated a bid by Republicans to repeal two revenue provisions of the new health law. The motion to HR 4849 (above) sought to repeal the law's \$2,500 cap on contributions to Flexible Spending Accounts as well as its ban on using both FSAs and Health Savings Accounts to pay for over-the-counter drugs.

A "yes" vote was to start repealing the health law.

	Yes	No	NV
Brian Bilbray R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 D. 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"/>