



NEBRASKA

Congressional Voting Record

115th Congress, 1st Session
January 2017—December 2017

*A Special Report on Legislation
Vital to American Retirees*

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SENATE VOTES

The following is a list of ten key votes selected as representative of the votes of critical importance to retirees taken by the U.S. Senate:

1 Protecting Medicare and Medicaid

Senator Hirono, D-HI, offered an amendment to the FY 2017 Budget that would make a point of order against legislation that would cut Medicare and Medicaid. The amendment failed 49-47. Sixty votes are required for passage. A **YES** vote is a pro-retiree vote. S.Con.Res. 3, Roll Call No. 4, January 9, 2017.

2 Drug Reimportation

Senator Klobuchar, D-MN, offered an amendment to the FY 2017 Budget to allow Americans to reduce their prescription drug costs by importing drugs from Canada. The amendment failed 46-52. A **YES** vote is a pro-retiree vote. Roll Call No. 20, January 11, 2017.

3 HHS Secretary Confirmation

The Senate voted on the nomination of Representative Tom Price to be Secretary of Health and Human Services. Representative Price supported the repeal of the Affordable Care Act. He also supported privatizing Medicare. Representative Price was confirmed 52-47. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. PN 33, Roll Call No. 61, February 10, 2017.

4 Retirement Rule Repeal

The Senate voted on H.J.Res 67, which nullifies a rule issued by the Department of Labor to allow state and local governments to set up savings arrangement for non-governmental employees. The rule aimed to help private sector employees save for retirement. The resolution passed 50-49. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.J.Res. 67, Roll Call 99, March 30, 2017.

5 Health Care Repeal

The Senate voted to repeal the Affordable Care Act. This legislation repeals the individual and employer mandate and allows states to apply for waivers from the ACA regulations. It will leave 15 million Americans uninsured and will increase premiums by 20 percent. The bill failed 49-51. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.R. 1628, Roll Call No. 179, July 28, 2017.

6 Protecting Medicaid

Senator Sanders, I-VT, offered an amendment to the FY 2018 Budget to restore the \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid. The measure would be paid for by reducing tax breaks for the wealthy. The amendment failed 47-51. A **YES** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.Con. Res. 71, Roll Call No. 221, October 18, 2017.

7 Protecting Medicare

Senator Nelson, D-FL, offered an amendment to the FY 2018 Budget to restore the \$473 billion in Medicare cuts. The measure would be paid for by closing special interest tax loopholes. The amendment failed 47-51. A **YES** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.Con.Res. 71, Roll Call No. 222, October 18, 2017.

8 Anti-Retiree Budget

Senator Enzi, R-WY, introduced the budget for FY 2018. This resolution cuts spending by \$5.1 trillion, including \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid and nearly \$500 billion in cuts to Medicare. It also contains instructions for tax reform. The resolution passed 51-49. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.Con. Res. 71, Roll Call No. 245, October 19, 2017.

9 Protecting Retiree Programs

Senator Sanders, I-VT, offered an amendment to the tax bill that creates a point of order against legislation that cuts Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid benefits. The amendment failed 46-54. A **YES** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.R. 1, Roll Call No. 294, December 1, 2017.

10 Skewed Tax Cuts

Senator McConnell, R-KY, brought up the tax bill, which provides tax cuts to corporations and wealthy Americans. This legislation will increase the deficit by \$1.5 trillion, lead to 13 million Americans becoming uninsured and trigger PAYGO forcing \$450 billion cuts to Medicare. The bill passed 51-48. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote, H.R.1, Roll Call No. 323, December 20, 2017.

How To Read This Record

Democrat (D) Republican (R) Independent (I)
✓ Voted With Alliance Policy
✗ Voted Against Alliance Policy
S Speaker Did Not Vote
P Present
? Did Not Vote

O Not Eligible Member
+ Announced For
- Announced Against
AL At-Large

The number before each name indicates Congressional District.

100% Best Score Possible

HOUSE VOTES

The following is a list of ten key votes selected as representative of the votes of critical importance to retirees taken by the U.S. House of Representatives:

1 Retirement Rule Repeal

Representative Francis Rooney, R-FL, introduced legislation that nullifies a Department of Labor rule that allows state and local governments to create savings arrangement for non-governmental employees. The rule aimed to help private sector employees save for retirement. The resolution passed 234-191. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.J.Res. 67, Roll Call No. 95, February 15, 2017.

2 Association Health Plans

Representative Sam Johnson, R-TX, introduced a bill that allows the creation of association health plans (AHPs). These plans would preempt state laws, undermine the Affordable Care Act and not have requirements to comply with essential health benefits. Individuals obtaining insurance through these plans would get skimpy policies that do not provide adequate coverage. The bill passed 236-175. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.R. 1101, Roll Call No. 186, March 22, 2017.

3 Health Care Repeal

Representative Black, R-TN, introduced legislation to repeal the Affordable Care Act. The bill repeals the individual mandate and the Medicaid expansion leading more than 20,000 Americans to lose their insurance. It would also reduce the solvency of the Medicare trust fund by 3 years, cut Medicaid by \$834 billion by capping payments to states and raise premiums for 50 to 64 years old from \$1,700 to \$16,100. The bill passed 217-213. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.R. 1628, Roll Call No. 256, May 4, 2017.

4 Fiduciary Rule Repeal

Representative Hensarling, R-TX, introduced legislation to the Department of Labor's Fiduciary Rule, which requires that financial investors put the interest of their clients ahead of their own. Working and middle class Americans lose \$17 billion a year in retirement savings due to advice that favors the adviser's, not the client's, interests. The bill passed 233-186. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.R. 10, Roll Call No. 299, June 8, 2017.

5 Medical Malpractice Limit

Representative King, R-IA, introduced legislation that limits medical malpractice suits. The legislation protects providers, shortens the statute of limitations and caps non-economic damages at \$250,000. This legislation penalizes the victims, particularly seniors who cannot claim economic damages. The bill passed 218-210. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.R. 1215, Roll Call No. 337, June 28, 2017.

6 Anti-Retiree Budget I

Representative Black, R-TN, introduced a budget for Fiscal Year 2018. This bill cuts spending by \$5.4 trillion, including \$1 trillion from Medicaid and over \$500 billion from Medicare. The resolution privatizes Medicare, raises the eligibility age and increases premiums by 25 percent. The resolution passed 219-206. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.Con.Res. 71, Roll Call No. 557, October 5, 2017.

7 Anti-Retiree Budget II

The House voted on the Senate passed budget resolution for FY 2018. This resolution cuts spending by \$5.1 trillion, including \$1 trillion from Medicaid and nearly \$500 billion from Medicare and contains instructions for tax reform. The resolution passed 216-212. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.Con.Res. 71, Roll Call 589, October 26, 2017.

8 Medicare Means-Testing

Representative Walden, R-OR, introduced legislation to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Act (CHIP). The bill reauthorizes the program by 5 years, but pays for it by increasing Medicare premiums on higher income beneficiaries. The bill passed 242-174. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.R. 3922, Roll Call No. 606, November 3, 2017.

9 End Medical Deductions

Representative Brady, R-TX, introduced legislation that gives tax cuts to corporations and wealthy Americans. The tax cuts are to be partially paid for by eliminating key tax deductions, including for medical expense. This deduction primarily benefits middle-income Americans, including seniors who itemize their taxes. The vote passed 227-205. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.R. 1, Roll Call 637, November 16, 2017.

10 Skewed Tax Cuts

Speaker Ryan, R-WI, brought up the final tax bill, which provides tax cuts to corporations and wealthy Americans. This legislation increases the deficit by \$1.5 trillion, will lead to 13 million Americans becoming uninsured and triggers PAYGO forcing \$450 billion cuts to Medicare. The bill passed 224-201. A **NO** vote is a pro-retiree vote. H.R. 1, Roll Call No. 699, December 20, 2017.

SENATE VOTES

1. Protecting Medicare & Medicaid 2. Drug Reimportation 3. HHS Secretary Confirmation 4. Retirement Rule Repeal 5. Health Care Repeal 6. Protecting Medicaid 7. Protecting Medicare 8. Anti-Retiree Budget 9. Pro-Retiree Programs 10. Skewed Tax Cuts Pro-Retiree Score '17 Lifetime Score													1. Protecting Medicare & Medicaid 2. Drug Reimportation 3. HHS Secretary Confirmation 4. Retirement Rule Repeal 5. Health Care Repeal 6. Protecting Medicaid 7. Protecting Medicare 8. Anti-Retiree Budget 9. Pro-Retiree Programs 10. Skewed Tax Cuts Pro-Retiree Score '17 Lifetime Score												
Alliance Position	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	%	%	Alliance Position	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	%	%
Fischer (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	4	Sasse (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	3

HOUSE VOTES

1. Retirement Rule Repeal 2. Association Health Plans 3. Health Care Repeal 4. Fiduciary Rule Repeal 5. Medical Malpractice Limit 6. Anti-Retiree Budget I 7. Anti-Retiree Budget II 8. Medicare Means-Testing 9. End Medical Deductions 10. Skewed Tax Cuts Pro-Retiree Score '17 Lifetime Score													1. Retirement Rule Repeal 2. Association Health Plans 3. Health Care Repeal 4. Fiduciary Rule Repeal 5. Medical Malpractice Limit 6. Anti-Retiree Budget I 7. Anti-Retiree Budget II 8. Medicare Means-Testing 9. End Medical Deductions 10. Skewed Tax Cuts Pro-Retiree Score '17 Lifetime Score												
Alliance Position	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	%	%	Alliance Position	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	%	%	
1 Fortenberry (R)	X	?	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	14	3 Smith (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	?	X	X	X	0	6
2 Bacon (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0													

