How They Voted

Our final look at the 109th Congress shows how every representative and senator voted on key issues, including warrantless surveillance, the border fence, and military tribunals.

AP

Two heads are better than one: With Iran belligerently seeking nuclear weapons, President Bush (one head) has forwarded the possibility that he may declare war against Iran. The Constitution, however, says only Congress (many heads) may commit our nation to war.

House Vote Descriptions

31 Foreign Aid. The fiscal 2007 foreign aid appropriations bill (H.R. 5522) would authorize $21.3 billion for foreign operations and economic assistance in fiscal 2007. Though foreign aid is supposed to help the poor and suffering in other countries, it instead has served to prop up economically deficient socialist regimes and to transfer wealth from American taxpayers to third-world elites.

The House passed H.R. 5522 on June 9, 2006 by a vote of 373-34 (Roll Call 250). We have assigned pluses to the "nays" because foreign aid is unconstitutional and unworkable.

32 Iran Military Operations. Representative Maurice Hinchey (D-N.Y.) offered this amendment to the 2007 Defense appropriations bill (H.R. 5631). The amendment would bar any funds to initiate military operations in Iran unless it is in accordance with Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, which delegates to Congress *alone* the power to declare war.

The House rejected Hinchey's amendment by a vote of 158-262 on June 20,

About This Index

"The Conservative Index" rates congressmen based on their adherence to constitutional principles of limited government, fiscal responsibility, national sovereignty, and a traditional foreign policy of avoiding foreign entanglements. Preserving our Constitution, the freedoms it guarantees, and the moral bedrock on which it is based is what the word "conservatism" once meant — and how it is being applied here.

To learn how any representative or senator voted on the key measures described herein, look him up in the vote charts. The scores are derived by dividing a congressman's conservative votes (pluses) by the total number he cast (pluses and minuses) and multiplying by 100.

The average House score for this index (votes 31-40) is 48 percent; the average Senate score is 53. Two congressmen earned perfect scores of 100: Walter Jones (R-N.C.) and Ron Paul (R-Texas).

We encourage readers to examine how their own congressmen voted on each of the 10 key measures as well as overall. Our first index for the 109th Congress (votes 1-10) appeared in our August 8, 2005 issue, our second index (votes 11-20) appeared in our December 12, 2005 issue, and our third index (votes 21-30) appeared in our July 10, 2006 issue.

We also encourage readers to commend legislators for their conservative votes and to urge improvement where needed. For congressional contact information go to www.thenewamerican.com/congress/. ■

House Vote Scores

	Votes: 31-40	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	1-40
ALABAMA												
1 Bonner (R)	40%	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35%
2 Everett (R)	50	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	44
3 Rogers, Mike D. (R)	60	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	45
4 Aderholt (R)	60	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	43
5 Cramer (D)	60	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	41
6 Bachus, S. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
7 Davis, A. (D)	60	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	38
ALASKA												
Young, D. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	41
ARIZONA												
1 Renzi (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	40
2 Franks, T. (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	60
3 Shadegg (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	48
4 Pastor (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38
5 Hayworth (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	40
6 Flake (R)	50	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	62
7 Grijalva (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	40
8 Kolbe (R)	20	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	18
ARKANSAS												
1 Berry (D)	90	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	63
2 Snyder (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	32
3 Boozman (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	34
4 Ross (D)	70	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	49
CALIFORNIA												
1 Thompson, M. (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	40
2 Herger (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	40
3 Lungren (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	30
4 Doolittle (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
5 Matsui, D. (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	29
6 Woolsey (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	40
7 Miller, George (D)	44	-	+	?	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	39
8 Pelosi (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	31
9 Lee (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	45
10 Tauscher (D)	40	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	30
11 Pombo (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	43
12 Lantos (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	32
13 Stark (D)	60	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	49
14 Eshoo (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	35
15 Honda (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38
16 Lofgren (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	35
17 Farr (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38
18 Cardoza (D)	50	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	43
19 Radanovich (R)	44	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	?	-	31
20 Costa (D)	70	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	45
21 Nunes (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	32
22 Thomas, B. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	26
23 Capps (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	37
24 Gallegly (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
25 McKeon (R)	44	?	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	31
26 Dreier (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	30
27 Sherman (D)	40	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	31
28 Berman (D)	33	-	-	?	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	29
29 Schiff (D)	40	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	28
30 Waxman (D)	40	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	31
31 Becerra (D)	56	?	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	34
32 Solis (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	35
33 Watson (D)	56%	?	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38%
34 Roybal-Allard (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	35
35 Waters (D)	44	-	+	?	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	41
36 Harman (D)	40	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	25
37 Millender-McDonald (D)	44	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	?	+	30
38 Napolitano (D)	44	-	?	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	34
39 Sanchez, Linda (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38
40 Royce (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	49
41 Lewis, Jerry (R)	50	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
42 Miller, Gary (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	41
43 Baca (D)	67	?	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	41
44 Calvert (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
45 Bono (R)	33	?	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	29
46 Rohrabacher (R)	40	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	52
47 Sanchez, Loretta (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	41
48 Campbell (R)	30	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	37
49 Issa (R)	44	-	?	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
50 Bilbray (R)	50	?	?	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	50
51 Filner (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38
52 Hunter (R)	44	-	?	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	42
53 Davis, S. (D)	40	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	30
COLORADO												
1 DeGette (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	32
2 Udall, M. (D)	50	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	35
3 Salazar, J. (D)	50	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	43
4 Musgrave (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	40
5 Hefley (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	51
6 Tancredo (R)	60	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	73
7 Beauprez (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
CONNECTICUT												
1 Larson, J. (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	36
2 Simmons (R)	50	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	31
3 DeLauro (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	33
4 Shays (R)	33	-	-	?	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	23
5 Johnson, N. (R)	30	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	18
DELAWARE												
Castle (R)	38	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	?	?	24
FLORIDA												
1 Miller, J. (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	54
2 Boyd (D)	70	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	41
3 Brown, C. (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	35
4 Crenshaw (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
5 Brown-Waite (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
6 Stearns (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	50
7 Mica (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	36
8 Keller (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	?	?	-	42
9 Bilirakis (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	36
10 Young, C.W. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	28
11 Davis, Jim (D)		?	?	?	-	-	?	+	?	?	+	26
12 Putnam (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
13 Harris (R)	22	-	-	-	-	+	-	?	+	-	-	25
14 Mack (R)	40	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	48
15 Weldon, D. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
16 Foley (R)	30	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	28
17 Meek, K. (D)	50	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	37
18 Ros-Lehtinen (R)	20	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	24
19 Wexler (D)	56	-	-	+	-	-	+	?	+	+	+	41

The scores are derived by dividing a representative's conservative votes (pluses) by the total number he cast (pluses and minuses) and multiplying by 100. (A "?" indicates that a representative did not vote. If a representative cast fewer than five votes in this index, a score is not assigned.) Match numbers at the top of the chart to House vote descriptions on pages 22, 24, and 26.

2006 (Roll Call 300). We have assigned pluses to the "yeas" because the power to declare war belongs to Congress, not to the president, and that much power should not be in the hands of one man.

33 Line-item Rescission. The legislative line-item rescission bill (H.R. 4890) would allow the president to propose cuts in spending bills already enacted by Congress. The cuts would then receive an up-or-down vote with no opportunity to filibuster or add amendments.

The House passed H.R. 4890 by a vote of 247-172 on June 22, 2006 (Roll Call 317). We have assigned pluses to the "nays" because the rescission bill, though not a full-fledged line-item veto, would still shift some legislative power from Congress to the president, disrupting the U.S. system of checks and balances.

34 Offshore Drilling. This bill (H.R. 4761) would end the federal moratorium on most offshore oil and gas drilling. It would continue the ban within 50 miles of shore, while allowing the states the option of extending that ban out to 100 miles. It would also allow states to share in the drilling proceeds.

The House passed H.R. 4761 on June 29, 2006 by a vote of 232-187 (Roll Call 356). We have assigned pluses to the "yeas" because the United States should reduce its dependency on foreign oil and utilize its own energy resources.

35 Pledge Protection Act. The Pledge Protection Act of 2005 (H.R. 2389) would counter judicial activism to prevent the removal of the words "under God" from the pledge by restricting federal courts from hearing cases on this matter, as opposed to protecting the pledge by amending the Constitution.

The House passed H.R. 2389 on July 19, 2006 by a vote of 260-167 (Roll Call 385).We have assigned pluses to the "yeas" because H.R. 2389 would protect the Pledge of Allegiance from federal court activism.

36 Oman Trade Agreement. The Oman Free Trade Agreement (H.R. 5684) would reduce most tariffs and duties between Oman and the United States.

AP

We've got it; let's get it: The Senate and House both passed legislation allowing increased drilling in our offshore regions, but the House version allows much greater access to supplies.

H.R. 5684 was considered under fast-track authority, which requires Congress to expedite consideration of presidentially negotiated trade pacts without offering amendments.

The Oman agreement is just one steppingstone in the White House's effort to form a Middle Eastern Free Trade Area (MEFTA) by 2013. These so-called free-trade agreements have historically failed because they encourage the relocation of U.S. jobs to foreign countries so that the companies can get cheap labor. Meanwhile, they don't provide the United States with trade benefits — largely because the people in those countries cannot afford to buy our products — thereby harming the U.S. economy. The agreements also put our economic destiny in the hands of unelected foreign bureaucrats, such as those at the World Trade Organization.

The House passed H.R. 5684 by a vote of 221-205 on July 20, 2006 (Roll Call 392). We have assigned pluses to the "nays" because such trade agreements damage the U.S. economy and threaten U.S. sovereignty by the imposition of international regulations. The Senate voted on similar legislation in September (see Senate vote #38).

AP

Preventing future damage: The Pledge Protection Act provides a constitutionally sound method to stop federal courts from taking the words "under God" out of the Pledge of Allegiance.

	Votes: 31-40	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	1-40
20 Wasserman-Schultz (D)	40%	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	30%
21 Diaz-Balart, L. (R)	30	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	27
22 Shaw (R)	30	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	28
23 Hastings, A. (D)	40	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	30
24 Feeney (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	49
25 Diaz-Balart, M. (R)	30	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	32
GEORGIA												
1 Kingston (R)	44	?	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	45
2 Bishop, S. (D)	70	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	42
3 Marshall (D)	56	-	?	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	32
4 McKinney (D)	57	-	+	+	-	?	?	?	-	+	+	51
5 Lewis, John (D)	38	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	?	?	33
6 Price, T. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	52
7 Linder (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	40
8 Westmoreland (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	51
9 Norwood (R)	60	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	54
10 Deal (R)	50	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	50
11 Gingrey (R)	50	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	44
12 Barrow (D)	50	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	33
13 Scott, D. (D)	60	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	35
HAWAII												
1 Abercrombie (D)	60	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	43
2 Case (D)	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	+	+	21
IDAHO												
1 Otter (R)	80	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	73
2 Simpson (R)	50	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	40
ILLINOIS												
1 Rush (D)	56	-	+	+	?	-	+	-	-	+	+	33
2 Jackson, J. (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	35
3 Lipinski (D)	70	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	38
4 Gutierrez (D)	57	?	+	+	-	?	+	-	-	+	?	38
5 Emanuel (D)	40	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	27
6 Hyde (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	31
7 Davis, D. (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38
8 Bean (D)	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	20
9 Schakowsky (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	41
10 Kirk (R)	20	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	13
11 Weller (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
12 Costello (D)	89	?	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	49
13 Biggert (R)	30	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	30
14 Hastert (R): *Speaker*		?	?	-	?	?	-	?	?	-	?	
15 Johnson, Timothy (R)	40	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	30
16 Manzullo (R)	44	?	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	51
17 Evans (D)		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	?	32
18 LaHood (R)	30	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	26
19 Shimkus (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
INDIANA												
1 Visclosky (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	40
2 Chocola (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
3 Souder (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
4 Buyer (R)	50	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	41
5 Burton (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	43
6 Pence (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	43
7 Carson, J. (D)	56	-	+	+	-	-	+	?	-	+	+	36
8 Hostettler (R)	70	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	68
9 Sodrel (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	40
IOWA												
1 Nussle (R)	50	?	?	-	+	+	?	?	+	-	-	42
2 Leach (R)	60	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	25
3 Boswell (D)	70	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	39
4 Latham (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
5 King, S. (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	48

	Votes: 31-40	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	1-40
KANSAS												
1 Moran, Jerry (R)	80%	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	54%
2 Ryun, J. (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	45
3 Moore, D. (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	33
4 Tiahrt (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	36
KENTUCKY												
1 Whitfield (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
2 Lewis, R. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	40
3 Northup (R)	50	-	-	+	+	?	?	+	+	-	-	34
4 Davis, G. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
5 Rogers, H. (R)	50	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
6 Chandler (D)	60	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	38
LOUISIANA												
1 Jindal (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	40
2 Jefferson (D)	56	-	+	?	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	39
3 Melancon (D)	50	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	46
4 McCrery (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	31
5 Alexander, R. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
6 Baker (R)	44	?	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	39
7 Boustany (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	36
MAINE												
1 Allen, T. (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	35
2 Michaud (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	35
MARYLAND												
1 Gilchrest (R)	40	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	15
2 Ruppersberger (D)	60	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	33
3 Cardin (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	28
4 Wynn (D)	40	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	35
5 Hoyer (D)	40	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	31
6 Bartlett (R)	60	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	55
7 Cummings (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	35
8 Van Hollen (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	33
MASSACHUSETTS												
1 Olver (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	36
2 Neal (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	35
3 McGovern (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38
4 Frank, B. (D)	70	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	48
5 Meehan (D)	38	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	?	?	34
6 Tierney (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	43
7 Markey (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	40
8 Capuano (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	43
9 Lynch (D)	70	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	38
10 Delahunt (D)	50	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	38
MICHIGAN												
1 Stupak (D)	67	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	?	44
2 Hoekstra (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
3 Ehlers (R)	40	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	25
4 Camp (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
5 Kildee (D)	70	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	43
6 Upton (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
7 Schwarz, J. (R)	50	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	21
8 Rogers, Mike (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
9 Knollenberg (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
10 Miller, C. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
11 McCotter (R)	50	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	43
12 Levin, S. (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	35
13 Kilpatrick (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	35
14 Conyers (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	45
15 Dingell (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	38
MINNESOTA												
1 Gutknecht (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	43
2 Kline (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35

The scores are derived by dividing a representative's conservative votes (pluses) by the total number he cast (pluses and minuses) and multiplying by 100. (A "?" indicates that a representative did not vote. If a representative cast fewer than five votes in this index, a score is not assigned.) Match numbers at the top of the chart to House vote descriptions on pages 22, 24, and 26.

AP

President Bush's pledge to provide 6,000 National Guard troops by August to aid border protection has fallen short. Thankfully, some sections of the border — 75 miles' worth — have fences.

37 Gun Seizure. The Disaster Recovery Personal Protection Act of 2006 (H.R. 5013) would prohibit the confiscation of firearms in the wake of a natural disaster. This bill is a response to the illegal confiscating of firearms from the victims of Hurricane Katrina in August 2005.

H.R. 5013 was passed by the House on July 25, 2006 by a vote of 322-99 (Roll Call 401). We have assigned pluses to the "yeas" because confiscating firearms from law-abiding citizens is a clear violation of the Constitution — the Second Amendment guarantees that our "right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." The Senate adopted similar legislation as an amendment to the Homeland Security appropriations bill a few weeks earlier (see Senate vote #34).

38 Border Fence. The Secure Fence Act of 2006 (H.R. 6061) would authorize the construction of nearly 700 miles of fencing along the U.S.-Mexico border. The border fence is just the first of a series of border security initiatives that House Republicans intend to merge into the Homeland Security spending bill. If implemented, the 700 miles of fencing along the border would be a good first step toward protecting our borders from the massive influx of illegal immigration facing our country today.

The House passed H.R. 6061 on September 14, 2006 by a vote of 283-138 (Roll Call 446). We have assigned pluses to the "yeas" because such a border fence would help prevent illegal immigration and further protect our borders. The Senate passed similar legislation on September 29, 2006 (see Senate vote #40).

39 Military Tribunals. This bill (H.R. 6166) would authorize a new system of military tribunals to try persons designated "unlawful enemy combatants" by the president. The bill defines an unlawful enemy combatant to include a person who "has purposely and materially supported hostilities against the United States or its co-belligerents." Once designated an unlawful enemy combatant, a defendant's rights would be curtailed: he would be denied the right of habeas corpus; he could be detained indefinitely; and evidence obtained through coercion could be used against him — so long as the coercion falls outside the administration's definition of torture.

Critics of the tribunals bill are planning to file suit in order to test the constitutionality of the legislation. This legislation was in response to the U.S. Supreme Court's June 29 ruling on the case of *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, which declared that the administration's current system for trying military detainees was unconstitutional.

The House passed the military tribunals bill on September 27, 2006 by a vote of 253-168 (Roll Call 491). We have assigned pluses to the "nays" because the bill would curtail defendant rights. The Senate passed this legislation the following day (see Senate vote #39).

40 Electronic Surveillance. The warrantless electronic surveillance bill (H.R. 5825) would allow electronic surveillance of communications with suspected terrorists without first obtaining approval from the secret courts established by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978. Furthermore, the bill would authorize unwarranted surveillance for up to 90 days in some instances if a threat was considered "imminent." Intelligence agencies would be allowed to conduct warrantless surveillance for seven days prior to gaining court approval if the threat was considered an "emergency situation." This controversial bill had full support of the Bush administration as a means to provide greater national security in a post-9/11 world.

The House passed H.R. 5825 on September 28, 2006 by a vote of 232-191 (Roll Call 502). We have assigned pluses to the "nays" because such a law would violate the Fourth Amendment by subjecting U.S. citizens to unreasonable searches and seizures. ■

What's mine is mine: A New Orleans' resident finally got his gun back on April 17, 2006, after it was taken during the civilian gun confiscations of Hurricane Katrina.

AP

Votes:	31-40	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	1-40
3 Ramstad (R)	30%	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	25%
4 McCollum (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	37
5 Sabo (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	33
6 Kennedy, M. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	30
7 Peterson, C. (D)	80	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	56
8 Oberstar (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	46
MISSISSIPPI												
1 Wicker (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
2 Thompson, B. (D)	80	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	44
3 Pickering (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	34
4 Taylor, G. (D)	70	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	53
MISSOURI												
1 Clay (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	49
2 Akin (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	43
3 Carnahan (D)	70	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	33
4 Skelton (D)	70	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	35
5 Cleaver (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	?	?	+	34
6 Graves (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	46
7 Blunt (R)	44	?	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
8 Emerson (R)	50	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	34
9 Hulshof (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	41
MONTANA												
Rehberg (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
NEBRASKA												
1 Fortenberry (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
2 Terry (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	40
3 Osborne (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
NEVADA												
1 Berkley (D)	56	-	-	?	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	34
2 Gibbons (R)	44	?	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	51
3 Porter (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	30
NEW HAMPSHIRE												
1 Bradley (R)	30	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	23
2 Bass (R)	30	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	20
NEW JERSEY												
1 Andrews (D)	40	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	21
2 LoBiondo (R)	40	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	25
3 Saxton (R)	30	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	18
4 Smith, C. (R)	40	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	26
5 Garrett (R)	60	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	58
6 Pallone (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	40
7 Ferguson (R)	30	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	28
8 Pascrell (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	35
9 Rothman (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	33
10 Payne (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	43
11 Frelinghuysen (R)	30	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	18
12 Holt (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	35
13 *Vacant*												
NEW MEXICO												
1 Wilson, H. (R)	33	-	-	-	+	+	-	?	+	-	-	30
2 Pearce (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
3 Udall, T. (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	37
NEW YORK												
1 Bishop, T. (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	35
2 Israel (D)	50	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	35
3 King, P. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	28
4 McCarthy (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	36
5 Ackerman (D)	40	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	31
6 Meeks, G. (D)	40	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	32
7 Crowley (D)	40	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	30
8 Nadler (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	33
9 Weiner (D)	50%	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	39%
10 Towns (D)	60	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	41
11 Owens (D)	44	-	+	?	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	41
12 Velazquez (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38
13 Fossella (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
14 Maloney (D)	50	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	38
15 Rangel (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38
16 Serrano (D)	44	-	+	?	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	36
17 Engel (D)	40	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	28
18 Lowey (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	33
19 Kelly (R)	30	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	21
20 Sweeney (R)	60	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	38
21 McNulty (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	35
22 Hinchey (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	46
23 McHugh (R)	56	?	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	38
24 Boehlert (R)	33	?	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	18
25 Walsh (R)	67	?	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	30
26 Reynolds (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	30
27 Higgins (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	28
28 Slaughter (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	30
29 Kuhl (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
NORTH CAROLINA												
1 Butterfield (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	36
2 Etheridge (D)	60	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	31
3 Jones, W. (R)	100	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	79
4 Price, D. (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	33
5 Foxx (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	50
6 Coble (R)	50	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	45
7 McIntyre (D)	60	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	41
8 Hayes (R)	50	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	46
9 Myrick (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
10 McHenry (R)	33	-	-	-	?	+	-	+	+	-	-	49
11 Taylor, C. (R)	50	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	45
12 Watt (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38
13 Miller, B. (D)	70	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	33
NORTH DAKOTA												
Pomeroy (D)	60	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	33
OHIO												
1 Chabot (R)	44	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	?	41
2 Schmidt (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	32
3 Turner (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	28
4 Oxley (R)	57	?	?	?	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	31
5 Gillmor (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	26
6 Strickland (D)	43	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	?	?	?	42
7 Hobson (R)	50	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	31
8 Boehner (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	36
9 Kaptur (D)	75	?	+	+	-	-	+	+	?	+	+	45
10 Kucinich (D)	60	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	43
11 Jones, S. (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	43
12 Tiberi (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
13 Brown, S. (D)	50	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	39
14 LaTourette (R)	60	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	34
15 Pryce, D. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	28
16 Regula (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	28
17 Ryan, T. (D)	70	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	46
18 Ney (R)	57	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	49
OKLAHOMA												
1 Sullivan (R)	33	-	-	-	+	+	-	?	+	-	-	39
2 Boren (D)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
3 Lucas (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	48
4 Cole (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
5 Istook (R)	33	-	-	-	+	+	-	?	+	-	-	45

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CONGRESS

Votes:	31-40	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	1-40
OREGON												
1 Wu (D)	60%	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	35%
2 Walden (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	25
3 Blumenauer (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38
4 DeFazio (D)	70	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	48
5 Hooley (D)	60	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	36
PENNSYLVANIA												
1 Brady, R. (D)	56	?	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	39
2 Fattah (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	35
3 English (R)	30	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	28
4 Hart (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
5 Peterson, J. (R)	44	?	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
6 Gerlach (R)	44	-	-	-	?	+	+	+	+	-	-	23
7 Weldon, C. (R)	40	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	26
8 Fitzpatrick (R)	44	-	-	-	?	+	+	+	+	-	-	28
9 Shuster (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
10 Sherwood (R)	33	-	-	-	?	+	-	+	+	-	-	31
11 Kanjorski (D)	78	-	+	+	?	-	+	+	+	+	+	49
12 Murtha (D)	60	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	43
13 Schwartz, A. (D)	40	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	25
14 Doyle (D)	70	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	43
15 Dent (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	28
16 Pitts (R)	44	-	-	?	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	42
17 Holden (D)	80	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	38
18 Murphy (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
19 Platts (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	30
RHODE ISLAND												
1 Kennedy, P. (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	39
2 Langevin (D)	40	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	30
SOUTH CAROLINA												
1 Brown, H. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	36
2 Wilson, J. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	28
3 Barrett (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	44
4 Inglis (R)	40	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	30
5 Spratt (D)	44	-	?	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	26
6 Clyburn (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	36
SOUTH DAKOTA												
Herseth (D)	50	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	33
TENNESSEE												
1 Jenkins (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	48
2 Duncan (R)	60	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	68
3 Wamp (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
4 Davis, L. (D)	50	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	45
5 Cooper (D)	60	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	30
6 Gordon (D)	50	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	35
7 Blackburn (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	45
8 Tanner (D)	60	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	47
9 Ford (D)	43	-	?	-	?	+	+	?	+	-	-	31
TEXAS												
1 Gohmert (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	51
2 Poe (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	46
3 Johnson, Sam (R)	29	-	-	?	?	+	-	+	?	-	-	42
4 Hall (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
5 Hensarling (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	52
6 Barton (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	34
7 Culberson (R)	33	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	?	-	-	36
8 Brady, K. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
9 Green, A. (D)	70	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	45
10 McCaul (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
11 Conaway (R)	33	?	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	32
12 Granger (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	30
13 Thornberry (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
14 Paul (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
15 Hinojosa (D)	80	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	42
16 Reyes (D)	67	?	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	38
17 Edwards (D)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
18 Jackson-Lee, S. (D)	56	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	?	+	44
19 Neugebauer (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	40
20 Gonzalez (D)	70	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	38
21 Smith, L. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
22 *Vacant*												
23 Bonilla (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
24 Marchant (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	40
25 Doggett (D)	56	-	+	?	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	36
26 Burgess (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
27 Ortiz (D)	60	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	33
28 Cuellar (D)	30	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	32
29 Green, G. (D)	78	-	+	+	?	+	+	+	-	+	+	45
30 Johnson, E. (D)	70	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	36
31 Carter (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	35
32 Sessions, P. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	39
UTAH												
1 Bishop, R. (R)	38	-	-	-	?	+	?	+	+	-	-	45
2 Matheson (D)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
3 Cannon (R)	43	?	?	-	?	+	-	+	+	-	-	41
VERMONT												
Sanders (I)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	43
VIRGINIA												
1 Davis, Jo Ann (R)	38	+	-	-	-	+	?	?	+	-	-	46
2 Drake (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	38
3 Scott, R. (D)	40	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	34
4 Forbes (R)	33	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	?	-	-	38
5 Goode (R)	60	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	64
6 Goodlatte (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	45
7 Cantor (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	33
8 Moran, James (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	30
9 Boucher (D)	90	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	50
10 Wolf (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	28
11 Davis, T. (R)	44	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	?	-	22
WASHINGTON												
1 Inslee (D)	56	-	+	-	-	?	+	+	-	+	+	36
2 Larsen, R. (D)	40	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	35
3 Baird (D)	50	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	31
4 Hastings, D. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	32
5 McMorris (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	42
6 Dicks (D)	33	-	-	+	?	-	-	-	-	+	+	24
7 McDermott (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	30
8 Reichert (R)	30	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	23
9 Smith, A. (D)	50	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	33
WEST VIRGINIA												
1 Mollohan (D)	80	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	45
2 Capito (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	34
3 Rahall (D)	90	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	55
WISCONSIN												
1 Ryan, P. (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	44
2 Baldwin (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	45
3 Kind (D)	80	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	45
4 Moore, G. (D)	50	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	38
5 Sensenbrenner (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	62
6 Petri (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	45
7 Obey (D)	60	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	40
8 Green, M. (R)	50	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	45
WYOMING												
Cubin (R)	40	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	49

The scores are derived by dividing a representative's conservative votes (pluses) by the total number he cast (pluses and minuses) and multiplying by 100. (A "?" indicates that a representative did not vote. If a representative cast fewer than five votes in this index, a score is not assigned.) Match numbers at the top of the chart to House vote descriptions on pages 22, 24, and 26.

Senate Vote Descriptions

31 Minimum Wage. Senator Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) offered this amendment to the Defense authorization bill (S. 2766). If implemented, the amendment would increase the national minimum wage from $5.15 to $7.25/hour within the next two years. Although a minimum wage increase sounds like an easy way to alleviate poverty in this country, it actually raises poverty. This is true because companies can not afford to hire entry-level workers and train them for careers; companies are forced to lay off workers they presently have on staff; and additional people are added to the welfare roles.

The Senate rejected Kennedy's amendment on June 21, 2006 by a vote of 52-46 (Roll Call 179). We have assigned pluses to the "nays" because it is unconstitutional for the government to prohibit citizens from working for less than a government-set price.

32 Iraq Troop Withdrawal. Senator John Kerry (D-Mass.) attached this amendment to the Defense authorization bill (S. 2766) that would require the president to have a complete withdrawal of U.S. troops by July 2007, with the exception of those needed to train Iraqi troops, target terrorists, and protect American citizens.

The Senate rejected Kerry's amendment on June 22, 2006 by a vote of 13-86 (Roll Call 181). We have assigned pluses to the "yeas" because our troops should only be sent to war when necessary to defend the United States and her citizens, and only when declared by Congress.

33 First Responder Grants. During consideration for the Homeland Security Appropriations bill (H.R. 5441) Sen. Chris Dodd (D-Conn.) proposed an amendment to increase funding for police, firefighters, and other local and state personnel by $16.5 billion.

A point of order was raised against Dodd's amendment based on the Budget Act, and the Senate effectively killed the amendment when it rejected the motion to wave the Budget Act. The vote was 38-62 on July 13, 2006 (Roll Call 197). We have assigned pluses to the "nays" because federal funding of local law enforcement will lead to more federal control of law enforcement.

34 Firearm Seizure. During consideration for the Homeland Security appropriations bill (H.R. 5441) Sen. David Vitter (R-La.) offered an amendment that would prohibit any funds in the bill from being used to seize lawfully owned firearms during a state of emergency. Vitter said this amendment was prompted by the confiscation of over 1,000 firearms by law enforcement officials in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

The Senate overwhelmingly passed the Vitter amendment by a vote of 84-16 on July 13, 2006 (Roll Call 202). We have assigned pluses to the "yeas" because gun confiscation violates the Second Amendment.

35 Stem-cell Research. The embryonic stem-cell research bill (H.R. 810) would allow federal funds to be used for research on embryonic stem-cell lines derived from surplus embryos at in vitro fertilization clinics. Such research would be done only by cannibalizing and destroying human embryos. Proponents contend that the research is needed to combat various diseases, but stem cells derived from sources other than embryos may be used to achieve the same results.

The Senate passed H.R. 810 by a vote of 63-37 on July 18, 2006 (Roll Call 206). It prompted President Bush to use his veto power for the first time in his presidency. We have assigned pluses to the "nays" because such research would violate the right to life for millions of unborn children.

36 Parental Notification. The Child Custody Protection Act (S. 403) would make it a federal crime for a person to transport a minor across state lines for an abortion in order to bypass state laws requiring parental notification.

The Senate passed S. 403 by a vote of 65-34 on July 25, 2006 (Roll Call 216). We have assigned pluses to the "yeas" because Congress can and should use its power to regulate interstate commerce to restrict abortion.

Welcome back, soldier: Though sectarian violence in Iraq has gotten so bad that the United States is considering dividing the country into three almost autonomous regions, the Senate voted down a plan to bring most of our troops home.

AP

Senate Vote Scores

Votes:	31-40	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	1-40
ALABAMA												
Shelby (R)	67%	?	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	46%
Sessions, J. (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	52
ALASKA												
Stevens (R)	60	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	38
Murkowski (R)	60	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	35
ARIZONA												
McCain (R)	60	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	44
Kyl (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	52
ARKANSAS												
Lincoln (D)	50	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	20
Pryor (D)	40	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	15
CALIFORNIA												
Feinstein (D)	33	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	+	+	+	18
Boxer (D)	40	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	24
COLORADO												
Allard (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	51
Salazar, K. (D)	30	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	24
CONNECTICUT												
Dodd (D)	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	25
Lieberman (D)	11	-	-	-	+	-	-	?	-	-	-	8
DELAWARE												
Biden (D)	40	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	18
Carper (D)	60	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	25
FLORIDA												
Nelson, Bill (D)	50	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	20
Martinez (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	43
GEORGIA												
Chambliss (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	50
Isakson (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	50
HAWAII												
Inouye (D)	50	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	35
Akaka (D)	22	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	?	+	-	23
IDAHO												
Craig (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	48
Crapo (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	55
ILLINOIS												
Durbin (D)	30	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	21
Obama (D)	30	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	21
INDIANA												
Lugar (R)	50	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	33
Bayh (D)	44	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	?	+	+	28
IOWA												
Grassley (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	48
Harkin (D)	33	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	?	+	+	28
KANSAS												
Brownback (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	45
Roberts (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	46
KENTUCKY												
McConnell (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	46
Bunning (R)	67	+	-	+	+	+	+	?	-	-	+	49
LOUISIANA												
Landrieu (D)	40	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	26
Vitter (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	50

Votes:	31-40	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	1-40
MAINE												
Snowe (R)	44%	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	?	+	31%
Collins (R)	50	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	35
MARYLAND												
Sarbanes (D)	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	18
Mikulski (D)	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	21
MASSACHUSETTS												
Kennedy, E. (D)	25	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	?	+	?	22
Kerry (D)	33	-	+	-	+	-	-	?	-	+	-	21
MICHIGAN												
Levin, C. (D)	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	23
Stabenow (D)	40	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	28
MINNESOTA												
Dayton (D)	40	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	25
Coleman (R)	67	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	?	-	+	31
MISSISSIPPI												
Cochran (R)	60	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	41
Lott (R)	60	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	41
MISSOURI												
Bond (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	49
Talent (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	48
MONTANA												
Baucus, M. (D)	44	-	-	+	+	-	-	?	-	+	+	24
Burns (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	51
NEBRASKA												
Hagel (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	44
Nelson, Ben (D)	60	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	30
NEVADA												
Reid, H. (D)	50	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	23
Ensign (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	62
NEW HAMPSHIRE												
Gregg (R)	60	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	49
Sununu (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	62
NEW JERSEY												
Lautenberg (D)	20	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	15
Menendez (D)	11	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	19
NEW MEXICO												
Domenici (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	38
Bingaman (D)	40	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	23
NEW YORK												
Schumer (D)	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	23
Clinton (D)	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	23
NORTH CAROLINA												
Dole (R)	80	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	49
Burr (R)	70	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	50
NORTH DAKOTA												
Conrad (D)	70	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	42
Dorgan (D)	70	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	45
OHIO												
DeWine (R)	60	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	25
Voinovich (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	40
OKLAHOMA												
Inhofe (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	58
Coburn (R)	80	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	65

Votes:	31-40	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	1-40
OREGON												
Wyden (D)	50%	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	30%
Smith, G. (R)	60	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	36
PENNSYLVANIA												
Specter (R)	40	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	31
Santorum (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	44
RHODE ISLAND												
Reed, J. (D)	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	18
Chafee (R)	40	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	20
SOUTH CAROLINA												
Graham (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	48
DeMint (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	50
SOUTH DAKOTA												
Johnson, Tim (D)	50	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	30
Thune (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	54
TENNESSEE												
Frist (R)	60	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	43
Alexander, L. (R)	60	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	47
TEXAS												
Hutchison (R)	60	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	45
Cornyn (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	50

Votes:	31-40	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	1-40
UTAH												
Hatch (R)	60%	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	46%
Bennett (R)	60	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	40
VERMONT												
Leahy (D)	40	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	25
Jeffords (I)	30	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	18
VIRGINIA												
Warner (R)	50	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	33
Allen, G. (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	50
WASHINGTON												
Murray (D)	20	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	15
Cantwell (D)	20	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	15
WEST VIRGINIA												
Byrd (D)	50	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	35
Rockefeller (D)	50	?	?	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	29
WISCONSIN												
Kohl (D)	60	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	28
Feingold (D)	40	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	30
WYOMING												
Thomas, C. (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	56
Enzi (R)	70	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	59

The scores are derived by dividing a senator's conservative votes (pluses) by the total number he cast (pluses and minuses) and multiplying by 100. (A "?" indicates that a senator did not vote. If a senator cast fewer than five vote

37 Offshore Drilling. Sen. Pete Domenici (R-N.M.) sponsored a bill (S. 3711) that would authorize oil drilling in the 8.3 million acres of the eastern Gulf of Mexico. The Senate would allow much less offshore drilling than the House-passed legislation (see House vote #34); however, it would still be a step in the right direction.

The Senate passed S. 3711 on August 1, 2006 by a vote of 71-25 (Roll Call 219). We have assigned pluses to the "yeas" because the United States should reduce its dependency on foreign oil and utilize its own energy resources.

38 Oman Trade Pact. Although the Senate voted on the Oman free trade agreement (H.R. 5684) in June, it had to clear identical legislation that originated in the House (see House vote #36).

The Senate passed H.R. 5684 on September 19 by a vote of 62-32 (Roll Call 250). We have assigned pluses to the "nays" because such trade agreements damage the U.S. economy and threaten U.S. sovereignty by the imposition of international regulations.

39 Military Tribunals. This legislation (S. 3930) to establish a special system of military tribunals for "unlawful enemy combatants" is identical to the bill passed by the House the previous day (see House vote #39 for more details).

The Senate passed S. 3930 by a vote of 65-34 on September 28, 2006 (Roll Call 259). We have assigned pluses to the "nays" because the bill would curtail defendant rights.

40 Border Fence. In the final hours before adjourning for their October recess, the Senate passed a Border Fencing bill (H.R. 6061) that would authorize the construction of nearly 700 miles of security fencing along the U.S.-Mexican border. The House had passed this legislation earlier in the month (see House vote #38).

The Senate passed H.R. 6061 by a wide margin of 80-19 on September 29, 2006 (Roll Call 262). We have assigned pluses to the "yeas" because such a border fence would help prevent illegal immigration and further protect our borders. ■

Another trade agreement: President Bush shakes hands with the Oman ambassador after signing the U.S.-Oman Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act.