

ADATODAY

1988 ADA VOTING RECORD

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT By Marc Pearl, ADA National Director

Americans for Democratic Action, Inc. presents the 41st annual edition of the longest running interest group rating of the U.S. Congress. Since 1947, ADA's "Liberal Quotient" Voting Record has been used to measure how well our Senators and Representatives support civil rights, family rights, workers rights, health care, social & economic justice, reproductive freedom, arms control, peace, and democracy.

Inside you will find our comprehensive breakdown detailing how each member voted on the critical issues facing our nation during the 2nd session of the 100th Congress. This year we looked at 20 different votes in each chamber.

THE END OF THE REAGAN "ERROR"

Liberals were gratuitously beat up on during the presidential campaign, yet the 100th Congress presented those who support the economic, peace and social justice agenda with numerous victories.

In spite of eight continuous years of berating the liberal programs meant to help families, workers, the elderly and children, Congress regained the initiative with each succeeding session and consistently resisted the temptation to roll over and play dead. Even as the great communicator maintained his high poll ratings and tried to convince the American public: "Don't worry, be happy," vetoes were overturned, gains were made on economic justice issues, and a significant *omnibus trade bill* containing plant closing notification provisions passed over former Senator Dan Quayle's floor leadership objections.

But Congress still seemed to lack a backbone in the face of election year politics. In spite of authorization for the first ever comprehensive research, education, and treatment of AIDS, Sen. Jesse Helms' (R-NC) threatened filibuster forced the Congress to jettison testing confidentiality.

Reproductive freedom supporters suffered a setback when Congress retreated from expanding abortion provisions in appropriation legislation to include rape and incest with the woman's life being threatened.

The momentum gained by the overwhelming rejection of Robert Bork to the Supreme Court in 1987 soon subsided; and in spite of ADA's opposition, Congress failed to challenge and later confirmed Reagan nominee *Anthony Kennedy*, who showed his true colors by casting the decisive 5th vote to reopen settled law from the 1976 civil rights *Runyon* case.

But there were also many bright spots in an otherwise less than historic 100th Congressional session. After 8 years of promises and false starts, strong enforcement procedures were finally added to the *Fair Housing Law*. Though the Reagan administration continuously tried to turn the clock back to the nadir of the 1950's, Congress successfully thwarted this action by passing the *Civil Rights Restoration Act*.

The *Ethics in Government Act* was expanded to tighten lobby restrictions on former members of Congress and high-level congressional staffers, but suffered a pocket veto by Reagan at the close of the session. The President also vetoed the *Whistleblower's Protection Act* even though the White House had given Republican and Democratic leaders assurance of support.

Ronald Reagan was forced to accept a military budget increase tied to the rate of inflation. The Senate passed the *INF Treaty*, but insured continuity of interpretation by holding future administrations to the definitions presented during the Congressional hearings by White House officials.

The ball of further progress is certainly in the Bush court in 1989. George Bush will confront a 101st Congress ready and willing to do battle, on the full range of social issues; particularly since he campaigned as a supporter of education, child care, and the environment.

We fully expect the "Liberal Quotient" to remain at its high levels, despite the rhetoric during the campaign. The most "liberal" candidate for Senate majority leader was overwhelmingly selected by his peers. The House ADA rating rose once again, and together with the Senate, the "Liberal Quotient" surpassed 51%.

Liberals are poised to recapture the initiative, redefine the mission, and rekindle the progressive flame of activism in 1989.

LIBERAL HEROES IN 1988

Members of Congress Who Scored 100%

HOUSE

Chester Atkins (MA)	Ronald Dellums (CA)
Thomas Downey (NY)	Don Edwards (CA)
Lane Evans (IL)	William Ford (MI)
Barney Frank (MA)	Henry Gonzalez (TX)
Bob Kastenmeier (WI)	William Lehman (FL)
Mickey Leland (TX)	Sander Levin (MI)
John Lewis (GA)	Mike Lowry (WA)
Bruce Morrison (CT)	Nancy Pelosi (CA)
Martin Sabo (MN)	Gus Savage (IL)
Charles Schumer (NY)	Gary Studds (MA)
Mike Synar (OK)	Peter Visclosky (IN)
Alan Wheat (MO)	Howard Wolpe (MD)

SENATE

Patrick Leahy (VT)	Claiborne Pell (RI)
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In 1988 Congress also showed reluctance to deal with a wide range of issues including:

- *South African sanctions, defense procurement reform, campaign finance reform, universal voter registration, parental leave, increasing the minimum wage, reforming the Walter-McCarran Act, hate crimes statistics, childcare, pay equity, and long-term health care.*

Though Congress rejected providing lethal military aid to the contras, it did, however, vote to restore non-lethal military aid.

Key to Descriptions:

LQ Vote #/Short Title/Bill #/Description/Resolution/Vote - ADA position in bold/Date/Vote #

SENATE DOMESTIC & SOCIAL POLICY VOTES

1. CIVIL RIGHTS RESTORATION ACT/ RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION — S 557

Hatch (R-UT) amendment to narrow coverage of discrimination laws for only those portions of a religious institution which received federal aid.
REJECTED 35-56 [N = +] 1/27/88 #4

2. CAMPAIGN FINANCING — S 2

Vote on Byrd (D-WV) motion to invoke cloture (limit debate) on bill to limit campaign spending and the role of political action committees in Senate elections. (60 votes needed.)
REJECTED 53-41 [Y = +] 2/26/88 #30

3. CRRRA/FINAL PASSAGE — S 557

Vote to override President Reagan's veto of bill to overturn Grove City decision and provide broad civil rights coverage. (65 votes needed.)
PASSED 73-24 [Y = +] 3/22/88 #67

4. OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY — S 79

Byrd (D-WV) motion to invoke cloture (limit debate) on substitute to require worker notification of toxic substance exposure risks. (60 votes needed.)
REJECTED 42-52 [Y = +] 3/29/88 #79

5. AIDS EDUCATION — S 1220

Kennedy (D-MA) motion to table (kill) Helms (R-NC) amendment to prohibit AIDS research & education funding of activities that "promote or encourage, directly, homosexual activity."
REJECTED 22-73 [Y = +] 4/28/88 #117

6. POLYGRAPH PROTECTION — HR 1212

Vote on conference report to limit the use of lie-detector tests for private sector job applicants or workers.
PASSED 68-24 [Y = +] 6/9/88 #173

7. DEATH PENALTY — S 2455

Passage of bill to allow use of the death penalty for "drug kingpins" who intentionally kill or who order a murder.
PASSED 65-29 [N = +] 6/10/88 #175

8. WELFARE REFORM/"WORKFARE" — S 1511

Moynihan (D-NY) motion to table (kill) amendment to force states to require at least one parent in a family receiving welfare to work at least 16 hours/week in either unpaid community work or a subsidized job.
REJECTED 41-54 [Y = +] 6/16/88 #188

9. PLANT CLOSING NOTIFICATION — S 2527

Metzenbaum (D-OH) motion to table (kill) Quayle (R-IN) weakening amendment to exempt employers from 60 days' notice if workers provided with severance pay.
PASSED 59-31 [Y = +] 6/24/88 #202

10. GAY-LESBIAN DISCRIMINATION/HOME RULE — HR 4776

Armstrong (R-CO) amendment to D.C. appropriations to overturn court decision and exempt religious institutions from law prohibiting bias against gays and lesbians.
PASSED 58-33 [N = +] 7/11/88 #236

11. LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION — HR 4782

Gramm (R-TX) amendment to remove \$58.5 million of funding from LSC and transfer that amount to the Drug Enforcement Administration.
REJECTED 28-66 [N = +] 9/27/88 #260

12. REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM — HR 4783

Chiles (D-FL) motion to table (kill) Weicker (R-CT) motion to allow use of Medicaid funds for abortions where pregnancy results from promptly reported cases of rape or incest.
PASSED 47-43 [N = +] 9/13/88 #327

13. MINIMUM WAGE RESTORATION — S 837

Kennedy (D-MA) motion to invoke cloture (limit debate) on bill to raise the federal minimum wage to \$4.55/hour over three years. (60 votes needed.)
REJECTED 56-35 [Y = +] 9/22/88 #336

14. PARENTAL & MEDICAL LEAVE — S 2488

Byrd (D-WV) motion to invoke cloture (limit debate) on the substitute bill to require all but small businesses to provide unpaid, job-protected leave to parents of newborn or ill children, funds for child-care services, and to crack down on child pornography. (60 votes needed.)
REJECTED 50-46 [Y = +] 10/7/88 #355

SENATE FOREIGN & MILITARY POLICY VOTES

15. CONTRA AID — SJRes 243

Vote to approve President Reagan's request for \$36.25 million in continued military and non-military aid for the Nicaraguan resistance forces.
PASSED 51-48 [N = +] 2/4/88 #18

16. STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE — S 2355

Exon (D-NE) motion to table (kill) Proxmire (D-WI) amendment to increase SDI funding by 6%, rather than the proposed 20% (a reduction of \$700 million).
PASSED 66-29 [N = +] 5/11/88 #124

17. SALT II TREATY — S 2355

Nunn (D-GA) motion to table (kill) Bumpers (D-AR) amendment to bar deployment of various multiple-warhead missiles in excess of SALT II agreements.
PASSED 51-45 [N = +] 5/11/88 #129

18. NUCLEAR TESTING — S 2355

Reid (D-NV) motion to table (kill) Hatfield (R-OR) & Kennedy (D-MA) amendment to prohibit underground nuclear testing above 5 kilotons as long as the USSR observes the same limitations.
PASSED 57-39 [N = +] 5/12/88 #130

19. MX MISSILE — S 2355

Exon (D-NE) motion to table (kill) Simon (D-IL) amendment to reduce funding for the MX by \$500 million and apply such funds to conventional warfare needs.
PASSED 61-36 [N = +] 5/12/88 #133

20. INF TREATY — TREATY DOC 100-11

Byrd (D-WV) amendment to require administration, current and future, to interpret the INF Treaty as it had been authoritatively addressed at the time of ratification.
PASSED 72-27 [Y = +] 5/26/88 #158

ADA 1988 HOUSE VOTING RECORD

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29 HAWKINS, A.	♦	♦	♦																																									

HOUSE DOMESTIC & SOCIAL POLICY VOTES

1. CIVIL RIGHTS RESTORATION ACT — S 557

Vote to override President Reagan's veto of bill to overturn Grove City decision and provide broad civil rights coverage. (284 votes needed.)
PASSED 292-133 [Y = +] 3/22/88 #41

2. PLANT CLOSING NOTIFICATION — HR 3

Michel (R-IL) motion to recommit the Omnibus Trade Bill and eliminate requirement to provide workers with 60 days' notice of plant closings or layoffs.
REJECTED 167-253 [N = +] 4/21/88 #65

3. HATE CRIMES STATISTICS — HR 3193

Vote to require Justice Department collection and publication of data on crimes committed against individuals on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, or sexual preference.
PASSED 383-29 [Y = +] 5/18/88 #138

4. POLYGRAPH PROTECTION — HR 1212

Vote to limit the use of lie-detector tests for private sector job applicants or workers.
PASSED 251-120 [Y = +] 6/1/88 #159

5. CATASTROPHIC HEALTH INSURANCE — HR 2470

Vote on a rule to consider bill to cap the amounts for which Medicare beneficiaries will be financially liable. Rejection of the rule was one way members could oppose the bill without voting directly against it.
PASSED 269-129 [Y = +] 6/2/88 #163

6. REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM/HOME RULE — HR 4776

Dornan (R-CA) amendment to prohibit the use of any locally-raised D.C. funds for low-income abortions.
PASSED 222-186 [N = +] 6/28/88 #203

7. FAIR HOUSING — HR 1158

Hyde (R-IL) amendment to weaken the Fair Housing bill which sought to provide enforcement procedures against housing discrimination.
REJECTED 139-265 [N = +] 6/29/88 #213

8. WELFARE REFORM/"WORKFARE" — HR 1720

Brown (R-CO) motion to limit the cost of the final welfare reform bill to \$2.8 million and to "permit no impediments" to work requirements "beyond those contained in the Senate" version.
PASSED 227-168 [N = +] 7/7/88 #219

9. DEATH PENALTY — HR 5210

Gekas (R-PA) amendment to Omnibus Drug Bill to provide the death penalty for individuals convicted of drug-related murders.
PASSED 299-111 [N = +] 9/8/88 #298

10. HANDGUN CONTROL — HR 5210

McCollum (R-FL) amendment on Omnibus Drug Bill to delete provisions that would establish a 7-day waiting period for handgun purchases and have the Justice Department propose a system for gun dealers to identify ineligible buyers.
PASSED 228-182 [N = +] 9/15/88 #321

11. AIDS TESTING — HR 5142

Dannemeyer (R-CA) amendment to require states receiving federal funds authorized by the bill, to report individuals to state public health office who test positive.
REJECTED 70-327 [N = +] 9/22/88 #337

12. PAY EQUITY — HR 387

Vote on bill to establish a commission to study whether the current federal job classification and pay system prohibits discrimination based on gender, race or national origin.
PASSED 302-98 [Y = +] 9/29/88 #371

13. GAY-LESBIAN DISCRIMINATION/HOME RULE — HR 4776

Dixon (D-CA) motion to weaken a Senate amendment which exempted religious institutions from the D.C. Human Rights Law prohibiting bias against gay and lesbian groups.
REJECTED 134-201 [Y = +] 9/30/88 #374

HOUSE FOREIGN & MILITARY POLICY VOTES

14. CONTRA AID — HJRes 444

Vote to approve President Reagan's request of \$36.25 million for continued military and non-military aid to the Nicaraguan resistance guerrillas.
REJECTED 211-219 [N = +] 2/3/88 #7

15. ABM TREATY — HR 4264

Aspin (D-WI) amendment to F'89 Defense Authorization to prohibit use of funds for activities not permitted under the traditional interpretation of the 1972 ABM Treaty, including the testing of SDI in space.
PASSED 252-159 [Y = +] 4/27/88 #70

16. SALT II TREATY — HR 4264

Dicks (D-WA) amendment to F'89 Defense Authorization to limit the number of various multiple-warhead missiles to the amounts specified in the SALT II Treaty so long as the USSR remains under such limits.
PASSED 240-174 [Y = +] 4/27/88 #71

17. NUCLEAR TESTING — HR 4264

Gephardt (D-MO) amendment to F'89 Defense Authorization to prohibit nuclear testing above one kiloton and test conducted outside of designated test areas, so long as the USSR observes the same ban.
PASSED 214-186 [Y = +] 4/28/88 #79

18. STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE — HR 4264

Dellums (D-CA) amendment to F'89 Defense Authorization to terminate SDI and, instead, authorize \$1.3 billion to create a Strategic Technology Research Office.
REJECTED 118-299 [Y = +] 5/4/88 #99

19. MX MISSILE — HR 4264

Hertel (D-MI) amendment to F'89 Defense Authorization to reduce Air Force funding by \$500 million and prohibit use of such funds for the MX-ICBM.
REJECTED 143-265 [Y = +] 5/5/88 #107

20. APARTHEID — HR 1580

Vote to prohibit nearly all U.S. trade with and investment in South Africa, and to authorize \$40 million in aid to blacks and other non-whites in that country.
PASSED 244-132 [Y = +] 8/11/88 #288

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