



VERMONT

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*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 Retirement Rule Repeal

The Senate voted on a Congressional Disapproval Resolution regarding a Labor Department rule on retirement plans. The resolution nullifies an existing rule that allows fund managers to consider environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) issues when advising on investments. The resolution passed 50-46. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.J. Res 30, Roll Call 35, March 1, 2023.

2 Automatic Spending Cuts

The Senate voted on an amendment by Sen. Braun, R-IN, to the Fiscal Accountability Act to rescind discretionary funding in the event of a debt ceiling crisis. The amendment imposes a one percent across-the-board spending cut every 30 days if a bill does not pass. Drastic cuts to vital older Americans programs would result. The amendment failed 35-62. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. S. Amdt. 91 to H.R. 3746, Roll Call 137, June 1, 2023.

3 Sequester Agency Funding

The Senate voted on an amendment by Sen. Cotton, R-AR, to the Fiscal Accountability Act to lift spending caps on defense spending while requiring non-defense federal spending to face future cuts. This would have enacted severe cuts to critical services that seniors depend on including health care, housing and transportation. The amendment failed 48-51. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. S. Amdt. 106 to H.R. 3746, Roll Call 142, June 1, 2023.

4 Rescind COVID Funds

The Senate voted on an amendment introduced by Sen. Budd, R-NC, to rescind unused coronavirus funds. The amendment cuts funds that cities and states use for critical items like transit while taking away expected relief payments for nursing homes and hospitals. The rescissions would have hurt preparation for future pandemics, including the development of vaccines and treatments. The amendment failed 47-52. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. S. Amdt. 134 to H.R. 3746, Roll Call 143, June 1, 2023.

5 Avoid Default

The Senate voted on the Fiscal Accountability Act. The bill allows the federal government to lift the nation's debt limit, pay incurred bills and avoid economic catastrophe. Passage avoids the potential loss of millions of jobs and threats to retirement savings and protects retirees from severe cuts to vital services. The bill passed 63-36. A **YES** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 3746, Roll Call 146, June 1, 2023.

6 Voter Suppression

The Senate voted on an amendment by Sen. Budd, R-NC, to the Consolidated Appropriations Act to prohibit the use of funds to implement or enforce Executive Order (EO) 14019. EO 14019 promotes and expands voting access for millions of Americans by directing federal agencies to consider ways to expand citizens' opportunities to register to vote and participate in the electoral process. The amendment failed 45-50. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. S. Amdt. 1243 to H.R. 4366, Roll Call 279, October 31, 2023.

7 Disrupt Agency Rulemaking

The Senate voted on an amendment by Sen. Lee, R-UT, to the Consolidated Appropriations Act to require congressional review of many agency rulemakings. The effect would make it extremely difficult for any presidential administration or federal agency to protect the nation's public health and safety through rulemaking and implementation. The amendment failed 46-51. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. S. Amdt. 1121 to H.R. 4366, Roll Call 283, November 1, 2023.

8 Bertagnolli Confirmation

The Senate voted on the nomination of Dr. Monica M. Bertagnolli to be the Director of the National Institutes of Health. A distinguished professor and cancer surgeon, Dr. Bertagnolli possesses the knowledge and experience to be an effective leader of the NIH, the nation's premier public health research agency. Dr. Bertagnolli was confirmed 62-36. A **YES** vote is a pro-retiree vote. PN 649, Roll Call 293, November 7, 2023.

9 Federal Government Funding

The Senate voted on an amendment by Sen. Paul, R-KY, to a spending bill that would reduce federal agency funding by 15% except for defense related expenses. It also rescinds \$30 billion from IRS enforcement funds. The cuts would severely impact seniors programs and reduce revenue because of less IRS enforcement. The amendment failed 32-65. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. S. Amdt. 1366 to H.R. 6363, Roll Call 311, November 15, 2023.

10 O'Malley Nomination

The Senate voted to confirm Martin O'Malley to be Commissioner of the Social Security Administration (SSA). The SSA is in need of a confirmed commissioner and O'Malley's has proven administration ability while governor of Maryland. Gov. O'Malley was confirmed 50-11. A **YES** vote is the pro-retiree vote. PN 900, Roll Call 347, December 18, 2023.

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 Cut IRS Funding

The House voted on the Family and Small Business Taxpayer Protection Act, introduced by Rep. Smith, R-NE. The bill rescinds nearly \$70 billion of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) funding over the next decade. An estimated \$160 billion in taxes currently goes uncollected from the top 1% of the wealthiest Americans. The bill passed 221-210. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 23, Roll Call 25, Jan 9, 2023.

2 Cut Pandemic Funding

The House voted on the Pandemic is Over Act, introduced by Rep. Guthrie, R-KY. The bill terminates the January 31, 2020 Covid-19 public health emergency. The Biden administration had already announced plans for the Covid emergency to end on May 11, 2023. The bill would end the public health emergency too abruptly by disrupting hospital and patient care funding. The bill passed 220-210. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 382, Roll Call 100, January 31, 2023.

3 Retirement Rule Repeal

The Senate voted on a Congressional Disapproval Resolution, introduced by Rep. Barr, R-KY, regarding a Labor Department rule on retirement plans. The resolution nullifies an existing rule that allows fund managers to consider environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) issues when advising on investments. The resolution passed 216-204. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.J. Res 30, Roll Call 124, February 28, 2023.

4 Cut Seniors Programs

The House voted on the Limit, Save, Grow Act, introduced by Rep. Arrington, R-TX. In exchange for increasing the debt ceiling, the bill makes severe funding cuts, beginning with a 22% decrease to all federal agencies. The cuts would lead to closures of numerous Social Security field offices, worsen Social Security and Medicare assistance wait times, and cut access to programs like Meals on Wheels. The bill passed 217-215. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 2811, Roll Call 199, April 26, 2023.

5 Disrupt Agency Rulemaking

The House voted on the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act (REINS), introduced by Rep. Cammack, R-FL. The bill creates unnecessary delays for any presidential administration or federal agency to implement agency rules. This will have an adverse effect on the government's ability to protect public health and enact workplace safety regulations. The bill passed 221-210. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 277, Roll Call 265, June 14, 2023.

6 Restrict Health and Safety Rules

The House voted on the Separation of Powers Restoration Act, introduced by Rep. Fitzgerald, R-WI. The bill modifies the scope of judicial review of agency actions and gives the courts more power over legislative and executive branch actions. It also seeks to end judicial deference to agency expertise, a threat to health, food safety, and environmental standards. The bill passed 220-211. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 288, Roll Call 271, June 15, 2023.

7 Cut Health Care Protections

The House voted on the CHOICE Arrangement Act, introduced by Rep. Hern, R-OK. The bill undermines numerous health care protections in the Affordable Care Act, including mental health and substance use disorder treatment. This could lead to higher premiums for workers with pre-existing health conditions and a loss of access to currently guaranteed health coverage, including maternity care. The bill passed 220-209. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 3799, Roll Call 282, June 21, 2023.

8 Cut Government Funding

The House voted on an appropriations bill, introduced by Rep. Carter, R-TX. The bill makes drastic funding cuts to federal agencies, and does not abide by the spending limits agreed upon in the Fiscal Responsibility Act. The legislation severely cuts housing programs targeted to older Americans, as well as nutrition and transportation programs. The bill passed 219-211. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 4366, Roll Call 380, July 27, 2023.

9 Cut Nutrition and Food Security

The House voted on the Agriculture Appropriations Act, introduced by Rep. Harris, R-MD. The bill cuts funding for food and nutrition programs back to 2007 levels, cutting \$8 billion from 2023. It threatens the ability to produce a safe, abundant and affordable food supply, as well as medicine and medical devices. The bill failed 191-237. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 4368, Roll Call 507, September 29, 2023.

10 Fiscal Commission

The House voted on the Spending Reduction and Border Security Act, introduced by Rep. Donalds, R-FL. The bill cuts federal spending by 30% and calls for the establishment of a fiscal commission, leading to potential deep cuts to Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. The bill failed 198-232. A **NO** vote is the pro-retiree vote. H.R. 5525, Roll Call 511, Sept. 29, 2023.

SENATE VOTES

	<div>1. Retirement Rule Repeal 2. Automatic Spending Cuts 3. Sequester Agency Funding 4. Rescind COVID Funds 5. Avoid Default 6. Voter Suppression 7. Disrupt Agency Rulemaking 8. Bertagnolli Confirmation 9. Federal Government Funding 10. O'Malley Nomination Pro-Retiree Score '23 Lifetime Score</div>													<div>1. Retirement Rule Repeal 2. Automatic Spending Cuts 3. Sequester Agency Funding 4. Rescind COVID Funds 5. Avoid Default 6. Voter Suppression 7. Disrupt Agency Rulemaking 8. Bertagnolli Confirmation 9. Federal Government Funding 10. O'Malley Nomination Pro-Retiree Score '23 Lifetime Score</div>												
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HOUSE VOTES

	1. Cut IRS Funding 2. Cut Pandemic Funding 3. Retirement Rule Repeal 4. Cut Seniors Programs 5. Disrupt Agency Rulemaking 6. Restrict Health and Safety Rules 7. Cut Health Care Protections 8. Cut Government Funding 9. Cut Nutrition and Food Security 10. Fiscal Commission Pro-Retiree Score '23 Lifetime Score											
Alliance Position	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	%	%
AL Balint (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100

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

