Senate leaders say tax bill should be approved easily

predicted easy approval of a tax-overhaul plan, ensed by President Reagan, that would affect the taxes irtually every American — cutting rates while wipout some deductions favored especially by middle-

Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., said, "There are ong indications this bill is going to sail through the nate." It will pass easily, he added, because it is "true

en Bob Packwood, R-Ore., the plan's chief author, he believes the bill is going to pass in much the e form as it came out of the Finance Committee ly Wednesday on a 20-0 vote. He proclaimed it "a great victory for America — a bill can truly defend."

he Reagan administration, which is sympathetic to

t of the bill, signaled its concern about two highofile provisions: elimination of the deduction for ist Individual Retirement Accounts and repeal of the ditional tax preference for capital gains. Even though repeal of the IRA deduction for work-

covered by company pensions would hurt many nilies, Packwood said, most of them would still come

twinners because of other parts of the bill.

The bill, most of which would become effective in , would cut individual taxes by about \$100 billion five years, with the reduction averaging 6.2 per-The burden on corporations would increase by

would be taxed at the bill's lower rate of 15 percent. A typical four-member family could earn about \$42,000 before any of its income was subject to the higher, 27

The "winners" — and Packwood said middle-income families would be at the top of the list — would benefit from raising the personal exemption to \$2,000 and from significant increases in the standard deductions.

To pay for those changes, the bill would take away some widely used deductions. In addition to the IRA and capital-gains changes, the proposal would end deductions for consumer interest and state and local sales taxes. The medical-expense deduction would be virtually eliminated. The deduction for miscellaneous expenses, including union dues and job-related publica-

The big losers, Packwood said, are upper-income investors who have been able to shield their salaries from taxes by writing off artificial losses arising from a certain partnership arrangements, especially in commer-

Tougher "minimum taxes" will hit the profitable companies and well-to-do investors who have been able to save dramatically on taxes through judicious use of

Packwood said, "We will say to the average Jane and Joe making \$40,000 that . . . your taxes are being fowered because we've raised taxes on people who have not been paying taxes.

Earthquake

(continued from page 1)

sured its strength at 7.7, on the n-ended Richter scale

Preliminary reports from the ak Naval Air Station indicated minor damage, such as "a couof books being knocked off lyes," said Lt. Col. Arnold Wilis, a Pentagon spokesman.

People were being evacuated to her ground, said Kathi Alexan-

At Atka, a village of 93 people out 100 miles east of Adak, many sidents headed for higher ground.

newly arrived stock before he headed for safety. He remembers other tsunami alerts.

"We've had some before, but it came to nothing," he said.

Geophysicists estimated a wave could reach Astoria, Ore., by 10:02 p.m. PDT and San Francisco by 9:47

tigent of about 5,000 people on ak.

The first earthquake Wednesday had a magnitude of 4.4 on the Richter scale and struck at 11:44 a.m., said Finley. It was followed 22 seconds later by a 6.0 earthquake and two hours later by the magnitude 7.7 esidents headed for higher ground. earthquake, said Don Finley of the Greg Golodall, a worker at the USGS in Washington, D.C.

Three more quakes that struck two to three hours after the large tremor measured 5.9, 5.9 and 5.4 on the Richter scale, and were not expected to generate further tsunamis, said the Warning Center.

Earthquakes of magnitude 6 or greater are capable of causing severe damage in a populated area. How-ever, the Aleutians are sparsely pop-

In 1964, a great earthquake registering 8.5 on the Richter scale and centered near Prince William Sound, southeast of Anchorage, stirred seismic waves that killed 114 people in Alaska, where it wiped out the village of Chenega.

Death Act

(continued from page 1) tes, Florida, Iowa and Louisana,

ombined the options concerning a are under 18. roxy and treatment of comatose

She added that the Texas act is wone of the most progressive and eful of any state.

A release from the Texas Medical association stated that all written discusses take effect if the patient becomes comatose, incompetent, or nentally or physically incapable of munication. But the wishes of patient who remains competent ays override the wishes of a writdirective, the release said.

naddition to the two protections, y, provided it is observed by two technically binding. lified witnesses and the patient's sician. The witnesses cannot be

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College Station 77840 OFFER GOOD THRU 5-15-86. It also allows specific persons to carry out the wishes of patients who

The persons, in order of priority, are: the patient's spouse, if over 18; the patient's parents and the patient's legal guardian.

Authors Eugene Boisaubin and Rebecca Dresser defined a terminally ill patient as someone who has an incurable illness or injury, which, in a physician's medical judgment, will result in death — despite life-sustaining procedures.

Boisaubin, in a phone interview, said that the problem now is making patients aware of their new choices.

Boisaubin added that patients should not write directives without amended act allows terminally ill consulting family members although ients to express their wishes ver- the written directive would still be

ated to the patient by blood or medical ethics committee at St. Jo- getting a court-appointed guardian arriage and cannot be included in seph Hospital, said that the law is on the side of the patient if he was com- friend of the patient, she said.

petent at the time of writing the treatment directive.

'If a patient is mentally capable of making that decision, then the doctor must honor that decision," he said. If the physician has problems himself, turning off the machine, he can refer this question to the medical ethics committee at the hospital.

Hall, 56, said that the doctor also can refer the case to the ethics committee if the family disagrees with the patient directive.

If the case is extremely complicated, the committee can appeal to the courts, he said.

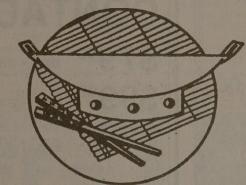
The authors noted that one of the act's shortcomings is the lack of guidance concerning incompetent patients who have no available rela-

In a phone interview, Dresser said that hospitals and physicans don't follow any hard and fast rules in Dr. John Hall, a member of the such a case. They have the option of

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