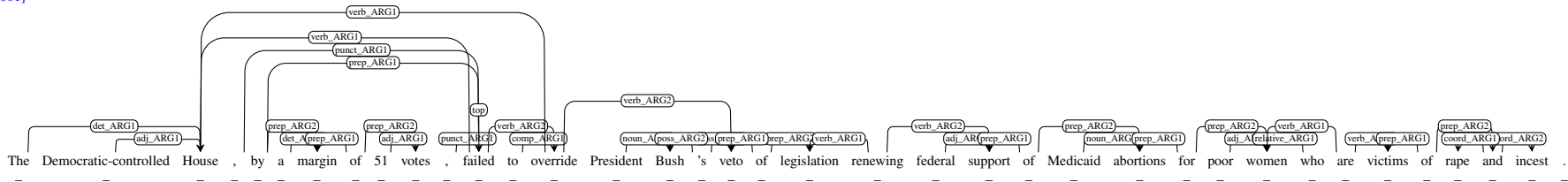
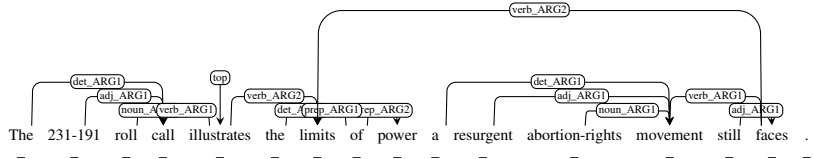


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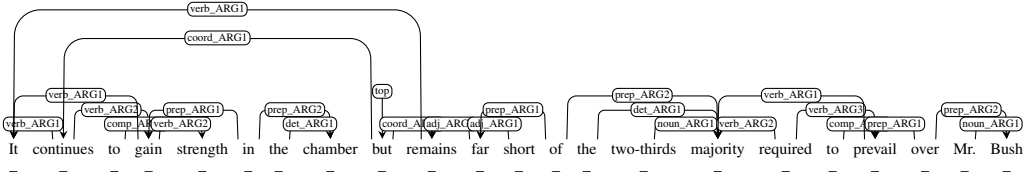
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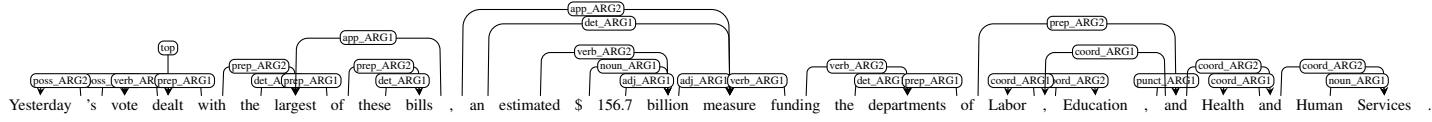
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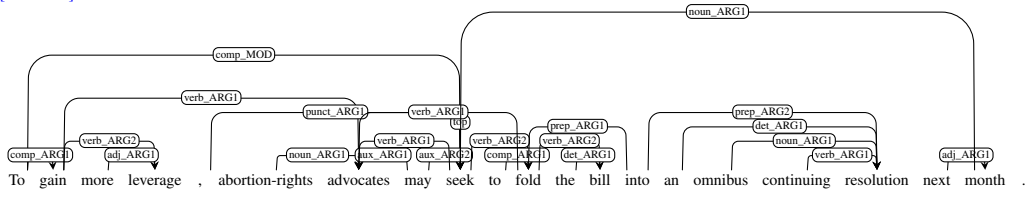
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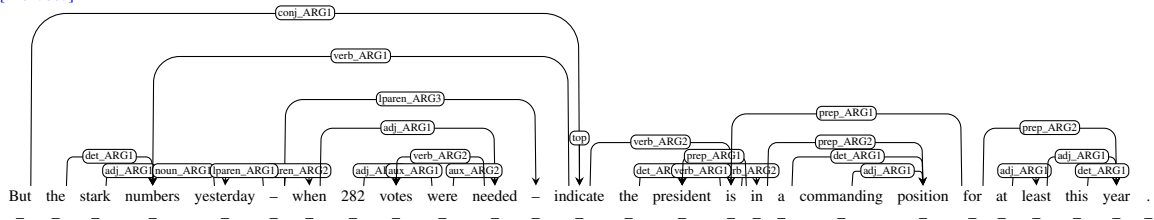
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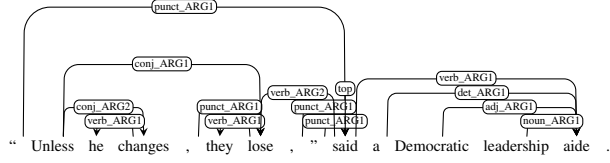
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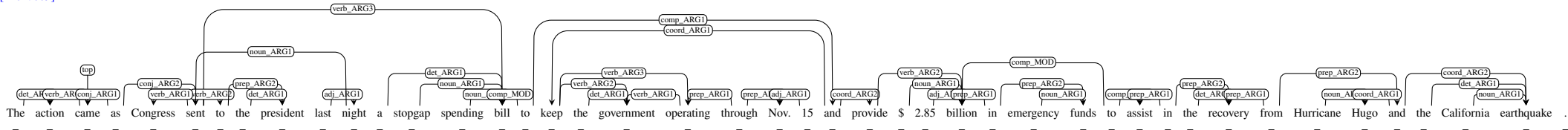
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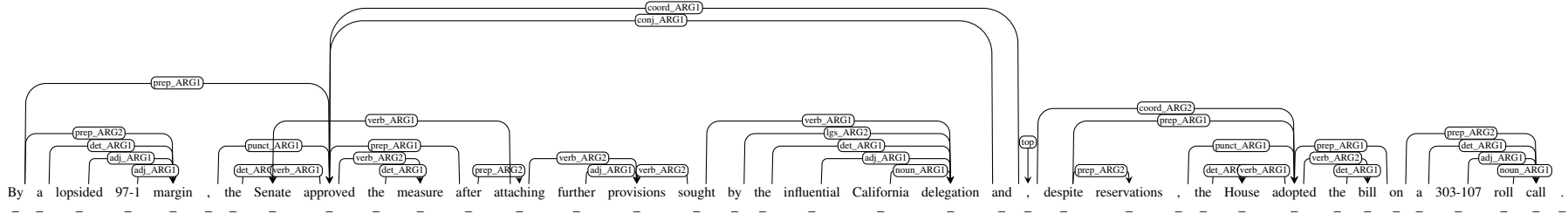
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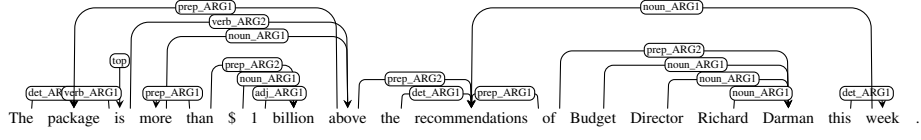
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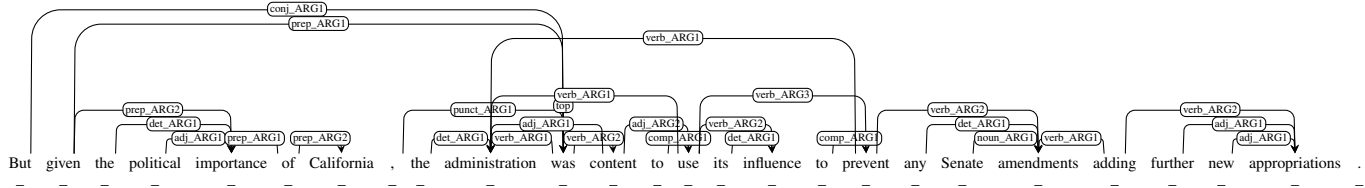
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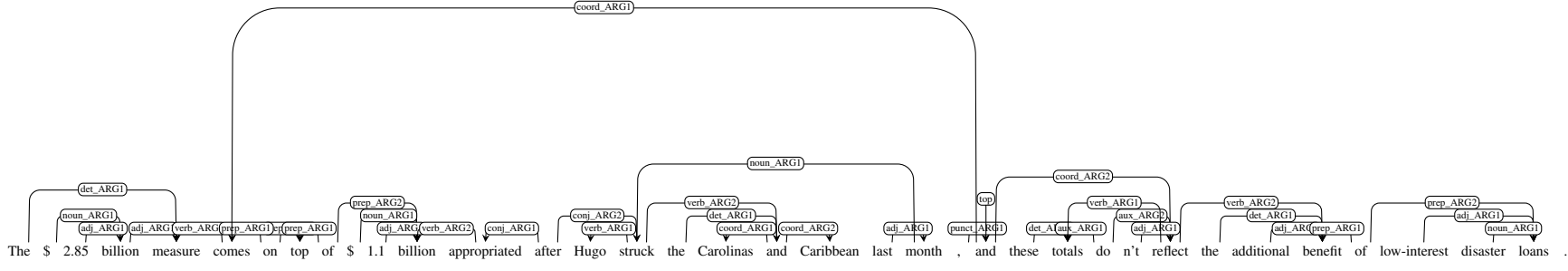
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[21017012]



[21017013]



[21017014]

The bill last night includes \$ 500 million to help finance this credit and further raises the obligation ceiling for the Small Business Administration sixfold to \$ 1.8 billion to accommodate the expected loan activity .

In direct cash assistance , \$ 1 billion is provided in federal highway construction funds , and \$ 1.35 billion is divided between general emergency aid and a reserve to be available to the president to meet unanticipated costs from the two disasters .

In the Senate , Majority Whip Alan Cranston used his position to win not only the expanded credit but also more generous treatment than the House had permitted in the distribution of highway funds in the next six months .

The emergency assistance would n't be counted against a state 's normal allocation of annual highway funds , and the bill circumvents existing restrictions that otherwise would prevent the use of federal aid to repair a toll road , such as the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge damaged in last week 's earthquake .

The underlying stopgap bill is the second required by Congress this fall and , since the current fiscal year began Oct. 1 , only the Energy and Interior departments are operating on permanent appropriations enacted into law .

The standoff over abortion is certain to contribute to further delays and , apart from the health and education measure vetoed by Mr. Bush , bills funding the District of Columbia and the entire U.S. foreign-aid budget are in jeopardy because of related abortion or family-planning issues .

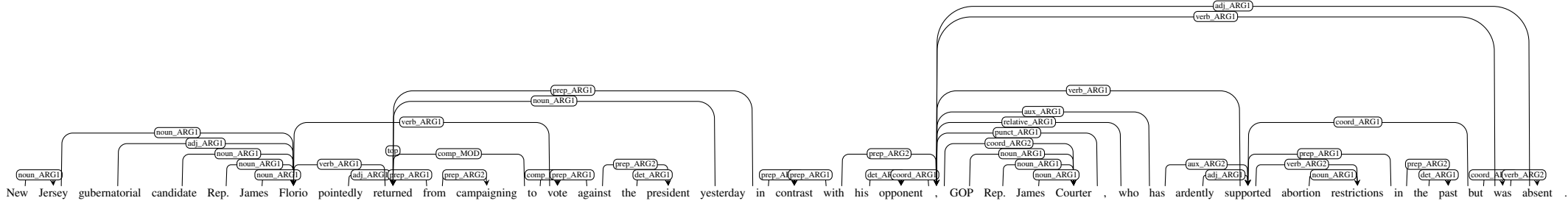
The vote yesterday was the most partisan in many years , and though the Democratic leadership is ambivalent about how to address the abortion issue , the debate is increasingly measured in party terms .

By comparison , Republicans have held closer to the anti-abortion movement .

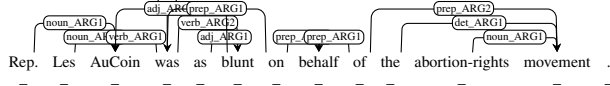
" This is n't a political issue , this is a moral issue , " said Rep. Henry Hyde (R , Ill.) , the most eloquent spokesman for the anti-abortion movement .

But after years of using the issue for its benefit , the GOP finds its candidates on the defensive .

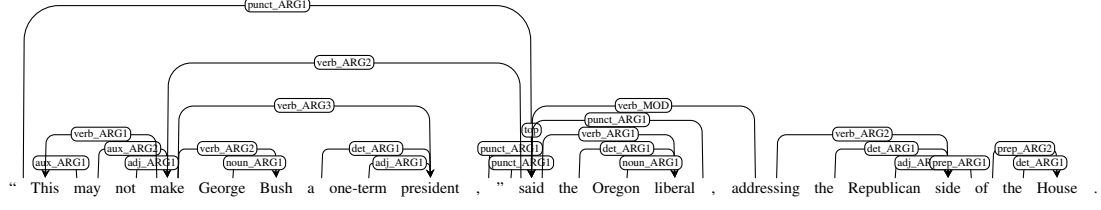
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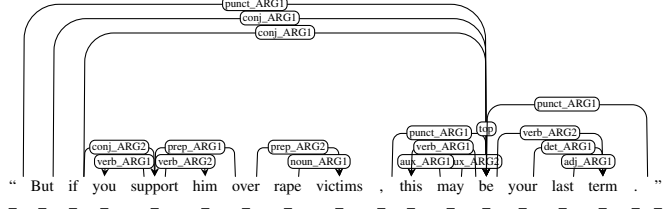
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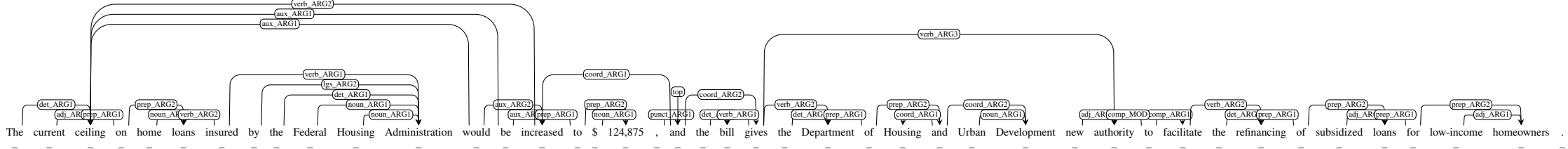
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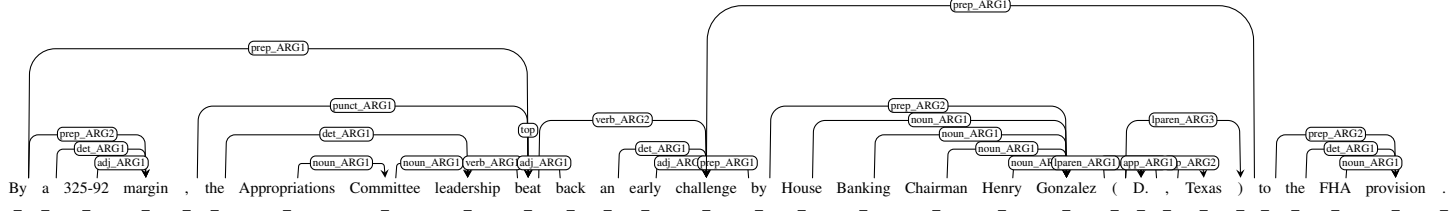
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[21017033]



[21017034]



[21017035]

