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Nicaragua: National Assembly Sustains Presidential Veto On Rollback Of Property Redistribution

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In a Dec. 13 secret ballot vote, the National Assembly voted 47-46 to uphold a presidential veto on legislation aimed at partially dismantling property redistribution carried out by the previous government. In the vote, the 39 deputies representing the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) were joined by eight representatives of the National Opposition Union (UNO). President Violeta Chamorro had issued a partial veto on 20 of 33 articles of the UNO-sponsored legislation (dating from August this year), citing violation of the nation's constitution. Assembly president Alfredo Cesar, chief sponsor of the original bill and of a prolonged lobbying effort to override the veto, criticized the executive branch for failing to rectify abuses committed by the former Sandinista government. Cesar asserted that Sandinista abuses would not go unchecked, and promised to introduce new legislation on the issue in early 1992. (Basic data from Associated Press, 12/14/91; Agence France-Presse, 12/13-15/91; ACAN-EFE, 12/15/91)

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