

Headlee seeks allies

Battle rages over amendment

Insurance executive Richard Headlee is making a public appeal to save the tax-cutting constitutional amendment carrying his name.

Headlee is upset with the recent State Senate approval of SB 460. The Farmington Hills businessman believes the bill undermines the tax amendment approved by voters last November.

The bill, if adopted, would overturn a portion of the amendment which prohibits unfunded mandated programs.

He is urging residents to ask Gov. William Milliken to veto the bill.

Headlee says that local governments could sue the state government for unconstitutional invasion into local government activities and services.

"Not only is it the Governor's constitutional duty to veto SB 460, but his veto will save the already overburdened taxpayers of Michigan from having to finance both sides of a certain lawsuit," he said.

Joining Headlee in his protest is the Local Governmental Alliance, composed of 18 associations representing local governments from around the state.

"We have opposed this bill from the start because it blatantly violates the intent of the people," said a statement released by the group.

"The loopholes of SB 460 negate this constitutional requirement by exempting state mandates. This would allow

for huge increases in costs which then must be borne by the local taxpayer," reads the group's statement.

THE ALLIANCE has offered to the State Administration and Rules Committee a substitute which conforms to the intent of the Headlee amendment. But the committee has yet to take action on the substitute bill.

Headlee has attacked state legislators who supported the Headlee amendment last year but voted in favor of SB 460.

Headlee is distributing the 93 legislators' names who supported SB 460 in hopes residents will contact them and object to their votes.

"The state legislature has the duty, and we note that 53 of the 146 legislators in Lansing voted against SB 460 to clarify and implement the tax limitation amendment," said Headlee.

"We appreciate that right of the legislature to clarify certain parts of it. But we don't think elected officials should try to take away what the people have clearly decided for themselves," he said.

Headlee fears that without a public protest, Milliken will sign SB 460.

"Only renewed action by Michigan's citizens will save local communities from more big spending programs concocted by special interest groups in Lansing from being forced onto local taxpayers," he said.

Locally State Sen. Doug Ross, D-Oak Park, supported the bill. His district includes Farmington, Farmington Hills and Southfield.

Obituaries

EMMA E. WILLIAMS
Mrs. Williams, 93, of Detroit died Aug. 1 at her home in Detroit.

Surviving are her two daughters, Mrs. Glenda Ward and Mrs. Ruby Whitehead; her seven sons, John, Fred, Walter, Marvin, Joseph, James and Carl Williams; 24 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Aug. 4 at Westland Memorial Cemetery, with the Rev. James M. Warfield of Wyandotte Christian Church officiating.

Mr. Cook worked for Chrysler Motor Company in the purchasing department before retiring. Mr. Cook was a member of the Moslem Shrine in Berkley and the First Baptist Church of Royal Oak.

Surviving are his wife, Madalyn; his daughter, Mrs. Sally Blight of Farmington Hills; his sisters, Mrs. Mamie Moore of Berkley, Mrs. Grace Deverson of Troy and Mrs. Helen Elkins of Rochester; his brother, Howard, and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Aug. 4 at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy, with Dr. Glenn Hanneman of the First Baptist Church of Royal Oak officiating.

BARNEY JOSEPH WILLIAMS
Mr. Williams, 85, of Southfield died Aug. 2 at Westland Convalescent Center.

Mr. Williams was employed by Chevrolet in the assembly division before retiring. He is survived by his wife, Florence; his daughters, Florence J. Tweedy, Eleanor B. Small, and Helen J. Williams; his sons, Robert, Earl and Kenneth; 11 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Aug. 4 at Woodmere Cemetery in Detroit, with the Rev. David Howell of the North Congregational Church in Southfield officiating.

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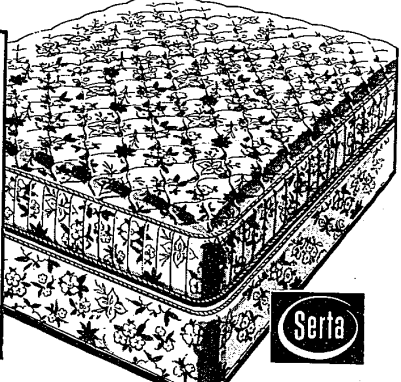
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