

How Your Rep Voted On School Aid Bill

Only one Observersland lawmaker opposed an \$848.7 million state school aid bill that passed both houses last week. The House gave the bill 89-14 approval after the Senate approved it 31-4.

REP. JOHN BENNETT (D-Redford) voted against the bill. Sen. George Kuhn (R-West Bloomfield) was recorded as not voting. Kuhn represents Farmington, Livonia and Plymouth. Bennett opposed the bill because he said it meant an aid cut for his home South Redford

School District, one of the richest in per-student valuation in the state.

Backing it were Reps. Raymond Baker (R-Farmington), Vincent Pettipren (D-Westland), Marvin Stempfen (D-Livonia), James Tierney (D-Garden City), Richard Young (D-DeARBORN Heights), and Sens. Lorraine Beebe (D-DeARBORN) and William Faust (D-Westland).

Gov. Milliken is expected to sign the measure even though it exceeded his recommendation by \$4.1 million.

PASSAGE CAME as both houses accepted a second conference report, designed to compromise their differences. The bill increases state aid to public schools by some \$38.7 million. An average school district would get a boost of \$19 per pupil.

The bill also provides about \$1 million to help reorganize the Detroit-Hamtramck Mills and Sumpster districts. Livonia was forced by the state to annex about two-thirds of the Nankin district and will be helped by the bill.



RUSSELL LEE LAWRENCE, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert L. Kolar of 21027 Rensselaer, Farmington, has joined the writing staff of Gray & Rogers, Advertising and Public Relations, Inc., Philadelphia. A free lance writer and contributor to newspapers and magazines, he is a graduate of Clarencville High School and last year was press representative for Philadelphia's Playhouse in the Park. He previously worked as a press agent for several hit Broadway shows.

Beer Price Increase Splits House Members

Observersland's six state representatives split 3-2, with one abstaining, on a bill that would raise the price of beer about 10 cents per six-pack.

The House in Lansing gave 60-43 approval to the bill last week and sent it to the Senate.

PURPOSE is to set a minimum retail price of bottled and canned beer and ale at 22 cents above the wholesale price. It's seen as a benefit to small

dealers fighting competition from chain stores which use beer as a "loss leader."

Previously, Michigan has regulated the price of hard liquor but not of beer.

VOTING FOR the price-fixing bill were Reps. Raymond Baker (R-Farmington), Marvin Stempfen (D-Livonia) and James Tierney (D-Garden City and Plymouth).

Opposed were Reps. Richard Young (D-DeARBORN Heights and

Livonia) and Vincent Pettipren (D-Westland).

Not voting was Rep. John Bennett (D-Redford). The Michigan Food Dealer's Association, opponents of the bill, charged it would cost customers an extra 10 cents per six-pack and 40 cents per case,



EXEC VP - George Mash of Farmington has been named executive vice president of Mills Products Inc. of Southfield. Mills is a major manufacturer of appliance parts.

GOP Senators Split Over Arbitration

Two local Republicans split last week when the State Senate gave 20-9 approval to a bill providing for compulsory arbitration for police and firemen's disputes.

Sen. N. Lorraine Beebe of DeARBORN Heights voted in favor, and Sen. George Kuhn of West Bloomfield was opposed. Sen. William Faust (D-Westland) didn't vote.

The bill faced a stiff fight in the House.

Sponsored by Sen. Stanley Novak (D-Detroit), the bill provides for binding mediation of public employee conflicts by a specially selected panel when voluntary bargaining breaks down.

A city, township or union which fails to comply with the arbitration board's order could be fined \$500 a day.

What prompted the bill's passage was the outbreak of "blue flu" among local public safety agencies - notably the five day firemen's strike in Kalamazoo.

Mrs. Beebe, Kuhn Buck School Plan

Republican State Sens. N. Lorraine Beebe and George Kuhn wound up on the alert end of a 25-5 vote when the Senate last week approved a plan to decentralize Detroit's school system.

Mrs. Beebe, whose 12th Dis-

Livonia Has Openings In Swim Classes

There still are openings for persons wishing to enroll in the summer swimming program at Bentley, Stevenson and Franklin high schools. The program gets underway Monday, June 16.

Registration information may be obtained by calling the pool supervisor at any of the three high schools from 9 to 11 a.m. daily.

trict covers Redford Township, and Kuhn, whose 14th District includes Farmington, Livonia and Plymouth, opposed the bill.

Observersland's Democratic senator, William Faust of Westland, voted in favor.

The House is also expected to approve the bill despite its controversial nature.

Opposed vigorously by Detroit school officials, the bill was sponsored by Sen. Coleman Young (D-Detroit) and had the vigorous backing of most Negro legislators.

The bill would require the central Detroit school board to set up nine regional districts with pupil populations of between 15,000 and 40,000.

Regional districts would elect their own nine-member boards which would have power to hire and assign superintendents and teachers, determine curriculum, establish testing programs and set budgets within the amount allocated by the central board.

2 Support Housing

Bond Vote

Two Observersland state senators backed a plan for a \$100 million bond issue for low-cost housing and urban renewal.

The plan got 26-6 Senate approval with the aid of Sens. Lorraine Beebe (R-DeARBORN Heights), whose district includes Redford Township, and William Faust (D-Westland).

Not voting was Sen. George Kuhn (R-West Bloomfield).

The plan needs two-thirds House approval and then would be put on a statewide ballot.

Dog Racing Bill Beaten In House

A bill to allow betting on dog races in Michigan went down to defeat in the State House of Representatives last week.

The bill lost 53-49 with three Observersland representatives voting in favor, two opposed and one absent.

VOTING FOR the bill were Reps. Vincent Pettipren (D-Westland), Marvin Stempfen (D-Livonia) and Richard Young (D-DeARBORN Heights and Livonia).

With the majority opposed to the bill were Reps. Raymond Baker (R-Farmington) and John Bennett (D-Redford).

Absent was Rep. James Tierney (D-Garden City), whose dis-

trict covers Plymouth.

IT MARKED the seventh year in a row that James (Sonny) Ellis, a dog track lobbyist, along with a group of industrialists and businessmen, had lost in their effort to give the state eight dog tracks. They had predicted the tracks would bring the state treasury some \$15 million in revenue.

The same bill would have increased track operators' share of the betting from 15 to 16 per cent. Further would have been to allow them to winterize grandstands and increase the size of purses in order to compete with a track in Windsor, Ont.

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