# Solar tax credit extended 5 years

e collowing overwhelming approval in the Michigan Legislature last week, the sort tax credit bill awaits Gov. James Blochard's signature. When algoed, House Bill 4622 will ex-gaed through 1988 the system of grant-ing state income tax incentives to en-purage residential investments in so-je, wind and water energy systems. withe Senate passed it 34-1. The House wite was 100-2.

THE NEW tax credit will last five pars and be more generous than pres-at incentives. Currently, a 10 percent credit on pur state income tax bill is allowed by the first \$2,000 investment in re-

pr the lirst \$2,000 investment in re-jewshale energy devices, and 5 per-jent for the next \$8,000 spent. Maxi-num credit is a total of \$500. The new bill will allow a 30 percent hax credit for the first \$2,000 invest-tment and 15 percent of the next \$3,000. meximum credit of \$1,000 invest-ient and 15 percent of the next \$3,000, maximum credit of \$1,050 may be educted directly from your state in-

come tax obligation.

The new bill will be retroactive to Jan. 1, so the credit can be taken for the year 1883 when you file your return next April 15.

The bill eliminated a property tax credit for solar equipment.

credit for solar equipment.

LEGISLATIVE backers viewed the bill as a mans of supporting development of a variety of energy resources within Michigan.

"Everyone believes we should explore lots of energy sources — this is critical," said Rep. Wilfred Webb, D-Hazel Park, a member of the House Tazation Committee, which reported out the bill.

"I don't finith anyone in my district has solar. Maybe this will change that," said Webb, a first-term lawmaker whose district includes part of Troy. State Sen. Philip O. Mastin, D-Ponitac, a member of the Senate Finance-committee, sees wisdom in encouraging development of solar resources.

"Solar has already proven itself in Michigan, Mastin said, politing to a substantial shift to supplementary so

Superday events take national award

lar heating systems by homeowners.
"We should provide renewable energy incentives for the commercial and industrial sectors as well."

DAN SHARP, an side to the bill's sponsor, Rep. Perry Bullard, D-Ann Ar-bor, heralded the legislation as a push for one of Michigan's growth indes-

for one of Michigan's growth industries.

"Extending the tax credits is good for everyoon," Starp said. "The locenties will stimulate spending that will in turn generate jobs and cocomile spinoffs, plus annual energy savings (to homeowners)."

Sharp noted the higher percentage credit on the lower end of the cost scale.

create on the series of systems with the lowest costs and the quickest paybacks. It will mean more bang for the bucks," he said.

THE NEW BILL is a compromise of n earlier version which passed the louse in September. According to Joann Neuroth, direc-

tor of the Michigan Energy Administration, the revised bill is wise to provide a more modest credit.

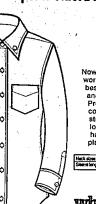
"I believe the credits will help enter the condition of the energy market," Neuroth said, but I am healiant about government subsidies of any feel for very long."

She observed that the state's solar industry, which in 1981 ranked sixth in sales mationally, is approaching cost-competitive status.

The administrator said she sees solar energy as a supplemental technology which will become one resource for energy needs. "Solar will never be the sole source of heating here, but it will reduce the heating sees and bring significant savings."

Neuroth evings. Neuroth critical Energy Administra-tion reports which project accumulated savings just for the 4,500 solar systems installed in Michigan since 1981 at \$50 million by the year 2000.

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organizations," said Oakland County Parks and Recreation Division.

Reickel and Superday coordinator Monica Walch accepted a plaque Oct. 5 at the NRPA Congress in Kansas City, Mo.

Oakland County Parks and Recreation commission received a National Recreation and Park Association award for its activities during "Life — Be In It" Superday on June 4.

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