Water board reform must wait

The Tigers expect to be baseball champions this year. But for George Kuhn, Oakland County drain commissioner, reform of the Detroit Water Board will have to "wait 'ill next year." The package will be introduced as "The package will be introduced as "State Bills 1, 2 and 3 on Jan. 1, 1985," Kuhn sald last week. He asked the state Senate Local Government Committee to withhold action on the bills in the remainder of the brief fail session. "We're back to square one," Kuhn sald.

"We're back to square one," Kuhn sald.
"Last year we had the votes," the suburban Republican official sald. His votec trailed off, indicating that some-where there had been an eroding of support.

BUT 1985 could be ideal for the bills, sponsored by Sen. Richard Fessler, R-West Bloomfield, supporters say, Rea-sons:

Sons:

• Federal court last week began
releasing to the media audio tapes, videotapes and transcripts lovelving Detroit Mayor Coleman Young and persons convicted in the Vista Disposal
case. Vista was a private contractor removing sludge from the Detroit sewagetreatment plant. "Everything that happens (with Vista) points up the need for

'The suburbs need a larger voice over a system which has great impact on their future. But I'm not sure taking it by legislative flat is

– Sen. Patrick McCollough D-Dearborn



George Kuhn

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Back to square one

reform," said Fessler. "These bills are a positive step in correcting the

cone vote per 10,000 population. The reconstituted water board would have a
suburban majority of the suburba'
choosing.

Detroit officials vehemently oppose
the bills, asying it's a white suburbanite
plot to rob the city of one of its financial "winners."

In a series of four lengthy public
but one has summer, Kuhn and subursuburbanish argued that suburban customediation argued that suburban cusconceil control of the suburban cusdomenication of power in what I've proposed, less opportunity for abuse," Fessier said.

Kuhn said the Senate committee's
public hearings won't have to be repeated next year, and that the committee can go ahead and report the bills
out.

AT LEAST one suburban senator.

AT LEAST one suburban senator.

out.

AT LEAST one suburban senstor, however, has qualms. Patrick McCollough, D-Bearborn, also has one of the five votes on the Local Government Committee.

McCollough has some political problems because his district includes a corner of southwest Detroit and such suburbs as Garden City. His official position is that "I baven't made up my mind.

retorm, "said restset." These bills are a positive step in correcting the abuses."

• Republicans believe they could gain control of the House in the Nov. 6 election for the first time in 18 years. "It is clearly within our grasp," according to Minority Leader J. Michael Busch, R-Saginaw. Democrata have had a 63-47 majority the past two years, and a black Deiroit representative heads the House committee which would handle the package.

• The Senate committee wouldn't change (the Senate sin't up for election this year). There is no need to repeat the public hearings. The bills remain only to be voted out of committee and sent to the Senate finor. altion is that I have a survey survey mind.

"The suburbs need a larger voice over a system which has great impact on their future," McCollough said in a Capitol corridor interview. "But I'm not sure taking it by legislative flat is stabil."

right.
"Ownership is a bundle of rights," sald McCollough, emphasizing that Detroit is legal owner of the system, and

among those rights is governance. "If we passed these bills, I'm quite sure they (Detroit) would sue. We'd all spend a fortune on attorneys."

McCOLLOUGH'S solution: The sub-urbs should negotiate with Delroit for better representation on the water board. "The bills are a good idea to keep pressure on the city to deal with the suburbs," he said.



Oakland GOP plans cruise

A Birmingham tax and accounting lirm is boeting a fund-raiser at 7 p.m. Loumna. The three-hour cruise will clotted filmer, dancing and composition of Oakland County. Mettler, Welland and Locricchio P.C. will present an evening aboard the dinner cruise ship Star of Detroit. Speaking at the \$100 per person



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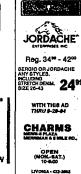
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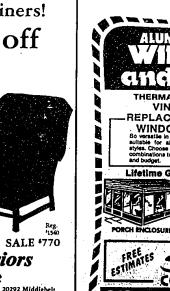
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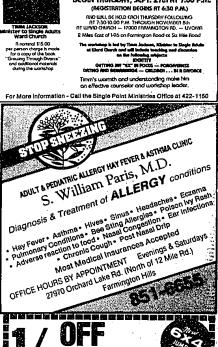
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