Sparks' switch helps save Blanchard veto

in the Right to Life wants to end state-funded abortions in Michgan, it will have to compromise with Rep. Gordon Sparks, R-Troy.

dast month Sparks supported a bill to—halt Medicaid abortions, but switched Tuesday and voted to uphold Goy. James J. Blanchard's veto of the measure.

"I'd want the compromise in place before we voted again," Sparks said af-ter the House members cast 72 votes in

favor of overriding the veto — two votes short of the required two-thirds

votes agore of the real regions override majority.
There were 32 votes against override with six members not voting.

IT WAS A stunning sethack for the anti-abortion Right to Life of Michigan, which sought to cut \$8.3 million from the state social services budget by banning Medicaid funding of an estimated 18,000 abortions for wellars recipients. House Bill 4007 had passed the lower chamber by a 77-34 vote on Feb. 5. Sparks voted for it but, with a handful of other members, also supported sev-

crel amendments designed to soften the effects of the ban.
Right to Life, however, wanted a "clean," one-paragraph bill with no amendments. That turned out to be a tactical mistake, at least as far as tactical mistake, and the source of the control seemed to have the most support," Sparks sald. Young, D-Detroit, sought to take the \$2.5 million saved on Medicald abortions and use it for "alternatives to abortion" such as school programs, counseling for pregnant women, adoption programs, family planning, prenstal and postnatal care.

by even where margins.

EXCEPT FOR Sparks, other area representatives voted the same as they did on Feb. 5.

Favoring the override, and thus favoring the cutoff of Medicald abortions, were Democrats John Bennett of Redford, William Keith of Garden City and James Rotieva of Canton, and Republicans W.V. Brotherton of Farming, and James Rotieva of Lake Orion, Gregory Gruss of Troy and Gerald Law of Plymouth Township.

Backing the Blanchard veto were Democrats Justine Barns of Westland and Maxine Berman of Southfield; and Republican David Honigman of West Bloomfield and Judith Miller of Bir-mingham, along with Sparks.

Kosteva, the freshman from Canton, voted with Sparks for several of the amendments but continued to support the basic bill.

THE VOTE placed two representa-tives from Troy on opposite sides of the

Gruse, a freshman whose district in-cludes the southeastern portion of Troy and Madison Heights, asid he "did some polling and found 60 percent are against Medicaid funding as a per-tions." His random telephone survey of 220 residents was done two months ago, he said.

Gruse said the districts are different, with his southern district having a higher unemployment rate, more blue-collar workers and more Catholics than Sparks' district, which includes the greater Rochester area.

Sparks said a survey commissioned by "a variety of groups" showed his district was 85-percent "pro-choice" and evenly split on Medicald-funded abortions.

"This time I had an awful let more input from the pro-choice people. Be-fore, I heard mostly from pro-life peo-

awful lot more input from the pro-choice people. Before, I heard mostly from pro-life people.

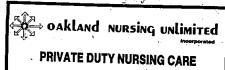
— Rep. Gordon Sparke Troy Republican

ple," said Sparks, a second-term House

ANOTHER FACTOR in the fallow

ANOTHER FACTOR in the fallote of the override may have been Right to Life's plant to back Democratic candidates Stephen Monama for a vacant state Senate seat in the Grand Rapids area. The RTL plan reportedly angered some Republicans.

For example, Rep. Edgar Geerlings, Koduskegor County, supported the hijl Feb. 8 but was absent for Tuesday's override vote. For practical purposes, an absence amounts to a negative vote between the count of many passage of a bill and on an override angent of the season of the count of many passage of a bill and on an override area of the season of the count of the c







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Rags to riches

\$200 turns into \$158 million for Perry Drugs

AT \$75 a letter, Jack Robinson's last ame on a store sign would have cost

1800.

"So the Bloomfield Hills resident named his Pontiac pharmacy after the farmed his Pontiac pharmacy after the farmed his pontiac pharmacy after his effect it was on — Perry.

"It was more economical to go with the location. Only five letters and \$225 yearings," Robinson hiddlighy told some 200 Perry Drug Stores stockholders. Threads yearing the company's 12th annual meeting in Troy.

"Two been watching stockholders' money ever since."

BACKING UP that claim, Robinson properties all-time highs in sales and carnings for the Pontiac-based drug store chain.

Started in 1957 at Perry and East Houlevard with \$200 in assets, Perry Drug Store Inc. now is worth more than \$158 million.

4138 million.

11s three divisions — drugstores, phito parts and heath care — operate 148 drugstores, 163 discount auto parts stores and three beath care companies in eight states. And there are plans to bpen 15 more drugstores and 30 auto parts stores.

bpen 15 more drugstores and 30 and to parts stores.

In fiscal 1984, Perry Drug sales were more than \$372 million — up 30 percent from the previous year. Earnings hit \$7.6 million, an increase of 68 percent over fiscal 1985.

Earnings per share were \$1.26, a 34-

cent over fiscal 1993.

Earnings per share were \$1.26, a 34percent increase over the 94 cents of
the earnings were relevested.

Since closing its books for 1984, PerFyalso acquired the Apex Drug Stores
Immetropolitan Detroit. That did not
affect its operating results. Sales for

Admission 12.50

Jack A. Rohi

1985 are projected for just short of \$500 million.

\$500 million.
Stockholders this week voted to in-crease the number of shares of com-mon stock from 10 million to 30 million and preferred shares from 1 million to 5 million.

RECOUNTING THE company's aggressive expansion efforts, the company chairman said the activity is part of a carefully drafted live-pear strategic plan. Expansion cost the company more than \$12 million in 1984.

It's a fast pace for a company which added one store yearly between 1984 and 1973 when it went public to raise capital. Perry broke into the auto parts.

"What we have done during the last few years is to carefully prepare our-selves for the future."

LOOKING TOWARD the future, Perry has diversified its offerings. While pharmacles will condition as the "heart" of the command that determined to become a major that determined to become a major to be midwest auto parts market. Last year, it decided to provide customers with a single source for health care needs like prescriptions, clinical laboratory tests and medical equipment.

ment.

Behind the move are increasing cost controls in the health care industry, leading to earlier patient discharge and a move toward HMOs, preferred provider and other arrangements.

a move toward HMOs, preferred pre-vider and other arrangements.

The new Health Care Division ac-quired Bloanalytical Procedures, a Dearborn company which offers com-prehensive clinical testing services and laboratory management to doctors, nursing homes and hospitals per pre-health care market by acquiring Filiat Medical and Surgical Supply, With the Heary Ford Health Care Corp., it formed Perry ComfortCare.

"AT PERRY we believe that change always brings opportunity and we've maintained the Parability adapt quickly to change so that the proportunities." said Airy exploits opportunities." said Airy whodes a West Bloomfield resident who is executive vice president and treasurer.

Perry President Donald For attributed the company's financial accomplishments to improvements in operations.

Among these are expansion of the Waterford Township warehouse, new material handling equipment in distribution centers, computerized pharmacles, new data processing equipment, a system which schedules Perry People on duty according to traffic flow, and a check-out-counter productive to the state of the state of the counter productive to the state of the

on duty according to traffic flow, and a check-out-counter productivity study to develop a plan to reduce customer lines.

"We're reaching to what customers want," explained the West Bloomfield resident, who was the pharmacist in the second Perry Drug Store. "Unless we give them the right products at the right time we're not going to succeed."

DURING THE upbest presentation, stockholders raised questions about the proposal to increase stock where. Robinson assured them it was not a stock split, but would allow a larger number of shares to be available. "This should not affect the equity of the stockholder," Robinson told his investors.

the stockholder, recomson too his investors.

Asked if Perry is considering ex-panding into Texas, the chairman said "We're very happy with eight states we serve."

A West Bloomfield High States we A West Bloomfield High School structent, at the annual meeting with members of his economics class, present Robinson about stock opportunities. "If I'm gona invest, to I want to bild off because Perry is acquiring more stores" asked Joe Dancredi, a sentire at the achool.
"I'm not an investor, but if you tap the bounder of some of the people here the bounder of some of the people here bound walt," Bobinson said with a smile.

Pressed about other acquisitions the

smile.

Pressed about other acquisitions, the company's founder said Perry is always interested in new stores.

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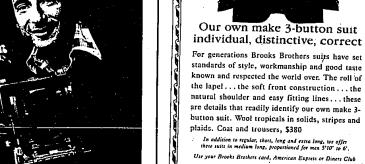
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