

Bill would increase bar licenses allowed

The state Senate has approved a bill amending the Michigan Liquor Control Act by allowing the Liquor Control Commission to issue a maximum of 50 additional tavern licenses per year for 1988, 1989 and 1990.

The measure would improve Michigan's business environment and alleviate the problems facing many specialty restaurants, said Sen. Jack Faxon, D-Farmington Hills, sponsor of the legislation.

"Many ethnic restaurants, in order to be competitive, should be able to serve wine with their meals," said Faxon. "With this measure, these ethnic restaurants will not only become more competitive, but will also be able to complement their unique meals with wine."

"Many of these small restaurants do not want a full-scale liquor license," continued Faxon. "However, these dining facilities are prohibited from selling wine because of the limited number of tavern licenses available," said Faxon.

"The city of Southfield can be viewed as a perfect example of a community facing this problem," said Faxon. "More than 250,000

people work and eat lunch in Southfield every day, but because the population of this city is only 70,000, many new specialty restaurants are not able to receive a tavern license because there are no more licenses available," said Faxon.

CURRENTLY THE commission issues tavern licenses according to the city's population. However, a section in the proposal states that when granting the additional tavern licenses, the commission will consider an area with increasing population as well as economic development factors stated Faxon.

Under the proposal, the Liquor Control Commission can issue tavern licenses only to full service public restaurants which prepare food on the premises, are open for business at least 10 hours a day, five days a week, have 75 percent of their gross income from the sale of food and have been in operation for at least six months before applying for a tavern license.

The tavern license cannot be reclassified to any other license which would permit the sale of alcohol on the premises. Also, the restaurant which is issued a tavern license cannot contain a bar.

C'ville OKs Headlee waiver

Clarenceville School voters Monday approved waiving the effects of the Headlee amendment rollback requirements, heading off further budget cuts.

Walled Lake Consolidated Schools voters rejected a similar waiver in their district.

In Clarenceville, voters approved the waiver by an unofficial margin of 229-130. Had voters rejected the measure, the schools would have had to cut \$177,000 from the district budget, in addition to \$250,000 in cuts already planned.

The 1988-89 school tax rate for operations will be the voter-authorized 37.9 mills instead of the rolled-back 36.8 mills, a difference of 1.1 mills. The 1988-89 operating budget will be \$8.3 million.

Under the state amendment, adopted in 1978, tax rates are reduced automatically when the local

tax base rises faster than the consumer price index. Boards and local governments must ask voters for a waiver in order to collect taxes at the previous levels.

Superintendent Michael Shibler said, "I'm very pleased for the support the community has given to the school district." He added that voter approval suggests the community approves of the direction the school board is taking.

By approving the measure, the average district homeowner will pay an additional \$3.21 more each month in school taxes.

Shibler last month sent information to all district homes urging approval of the Headlee override and met with community groups urging passage. On Monday, phone volunteers called registered voters seeking support.

Running unopposed to four-year

terms on the Clarenceville Board of Education were incumbents Michael Manore, board vice president, and Richard Wood. They have served eight and 26 years, respectively.

Just 359 of the district's 6,300 registered voters cast ballots in the election, a 5.7 percent turnout.

The 2,333-student district includes a section of southeast Farmington Hills bounded by Eight Mile, Inkster, Independence and Hugo.

IN UNOFFICIAL Walled Lake Consolidated Schools results, voters said no to waiving the effects of the Headlee amendment by a 2-1 margin — yes 798, no 1,526.

The 1988-89 school tax rate for operations will be 35.8056 mills instead of the voter-authorized 38.54 mills, a difference of 2.74 mills. The 1988-89 operating budget will be \$42.3 million.

Nearly 5 percent of the district's 48,772 registered voters cast ballots. Only one vote separated the top two candidates for two four-year terms on the Walled Lake school board, Kathryn Mizzi of Union Lake, a benefits clerk with West Bloomfield Public Schools, was the top vote-getter with 988 votes. Marc Belsky of West Bloomfield received 988 votes.

Other Walled Lake trustee candidates and their vote totals were: three-year incumbent Robert Gallagher of Union Lake, 631; Kenneth Tucker of Walled Lake, 637; Melonie Kaczowski of Walled Lake, 452, and Steve Dibert of West Bloomfield, 280. Two-year trustee Patrick Urbanski of Wixom did not seek reelection.

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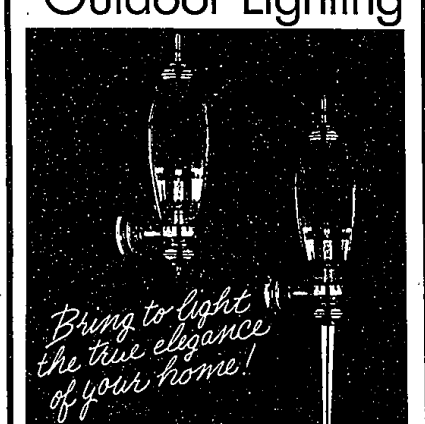
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