

# Truckers back Honigman proposal to end regulation

A group of trucking companies is backing a bill by state Sen. David Honigman, R-West Bloomfield, to end state regulation of trucking rates and beef up safety regulation. Regulation has kept shipping costs high, said the Association for Safe and Competitive Transportation. ASCT is a group of more than 130 trucking companies, factories, small businesses, business organizations and retailers.

"We are clearly losing jobs in Michigan to businesses that are locating outside of the state and taking advantage of cheaper interstate trucking costs to bring goods into the state," said Greg Stachura,

a Novi businessman who chairs ASCT.

ASCT SAID intrastate trucking rates, charged for hauling products from one point within Michigan to another, are far higher than interstate rates.

Honigman's bill will mean fewer state tax dollars wasted checking to see that trucking companies are charging the high rates required under current law, and more emphasis on safety regulation.

"It's crazy for the state to send members of the State Police Motor Carrier Division into the offices of trucking companies to see that

they are charging enough. Instead of checking invoices and rate filings, we need to put more effort into checking brakes and driving records," said Stachura, president of GSA International Limited in Novi, a freight brokerage company.

Interstate trucking — between states — has been largely deregulated since 1980 by Congress. The result has been a lowering of costs with no evidence of increased safety problems, Stachura said.

MICHIGAN, HOWEVER, continues to regulate intrastate trucking — from one point to another within the state.

# Solid waste vote set for Nov. 5

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The date was moved back, however, to give state air pollution control officials in Lansing more time to promulgate emission standards and to hold a hearing on an operating permit for the Auburn Hills incinerator.

Moving the election date back, however, was generally welcomed. Commissioner Lillian Jaffe Oaks, D-Southfield, for example, said the November election is likely to get a larger turnout, thus assuring more participation and a more representative sample of voter preference.

Commissioner Donna L. Wolf, R-Farmington Hills, said having the election at the later date gives the county more time in which to make all relevant information available to the public. Commissioners want voters to have all the pertinent data before expressing their will, he said.

SIX PEOPLE addressed commissioners during the public comment section of the meeting, most expressing anti-incinerator views. Among them were:

- Iris Uthar of Rochester Hills who opposes the incinerator as well as sentiment that commissioners should walk away from any solid waste plan if voters reject the all-or-nothing ballot proposal. "That's not leadership," she said.

- John King of Bloomfield Hills said the solid waste plan — with the incinerator — is DOA, meaning Dead On Arrival.

- Commissioner Rudy Serra, D-Ferndale, said he was happy to see

that King — a vocal activist and sometimes columnist — has resumed his custom of attending commission meetings and critiquing their proceedings. Because of illness and other reasons, King, an advocate of the solid waste plan, has been absent from several meetings.

Serra said, however, he hopes that King's return will not again trigger outbursts with opponents of the incinerator.

"We don't want to be like the state Senate," Serra chided, referring to the heated dispute in the legislature that resulted in a fist-fight between two senators on May 15.

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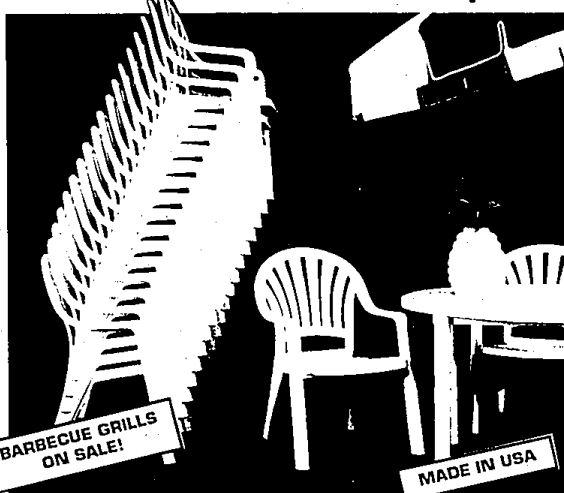
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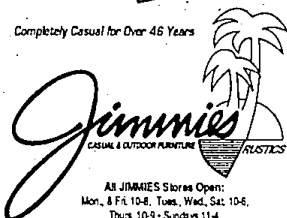
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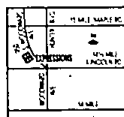
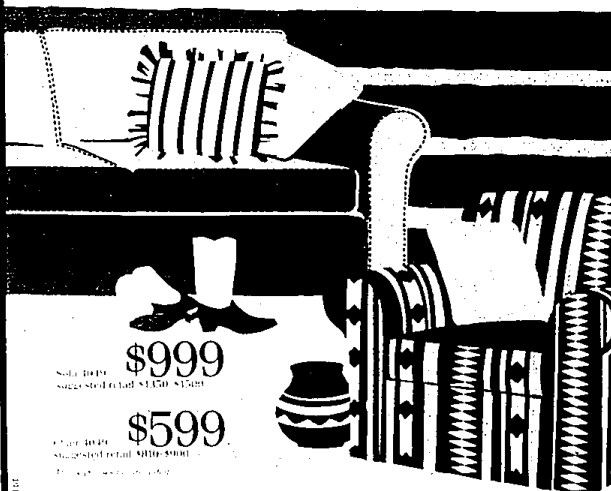
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