nude dancing ban

Sen. Jack Faxon went down swinging as the Michigan Senate approved three bills allowing communities to ban nude dancing. Citling "such major award-winning productions as "Equus, "Hair." O Calcutta and such major dance companies as Paloupolus, "Faxon, D-Farmington Hills said they would be "seriously compromised" by the bills, which would "put Michigan into the equivalent of a dry state.

Michigan into the equivalent of a dry state.
"These efforts on the part of local units of government to somehow protect the innocence of their adult members of their community strikes at the very core of the fundamental freedom of self-expression inherent in our constitutional liberties," Faxon said as he finished on the short end of 31-1 and 32-1 voices.

All area senators voted yes.

Sen. Lana Pollack, D-Ann Arbor, said she is a proud member of the American Civil Libertles Union, but she fully supported the bill. "I'm also a woman. It means that as a class, as a member of a class of people, I'm more likely to be victimized by sexual violence; I'm more likely to be demeaned by sexually exploitive language," Pollack said.

FAXON ARGUED that local units already have the power to regulate business locations and that the prohibitions would simply force entertainment seekers across the border to Windsor.

Replying to Pollack, he said nude dancing "does not promote more sexually aggressive crimes. Indeed it probably does quite the opposite, and it does not in fact degrade anybody's condition.

"In the movies you see much

grade anybody's condition.

"In the movies you see much more, it's much worse. There are very graphic closeup shots which you do not see live unless you're holding a pair of binoculars.
"If you don't like it, don't go to it. It's very simple."
Sen James Berryman, D-Adrian, said that choice should be given to communities as well. "If the communities don't like it, give them the right to prohibit bottomiess dancing," said Berryman, a former mayor.

The bills allow local units to han

The bills allow local units to ban "public nudity," defined as "displaying in a public place" for payment "any individual's genitals or anus with less than a fully opaque covering."

Faxon only vote vs. GOP bigwigs protest mental health moves

A bipartisan group of state sena-tors is protesting Gov. Engler's ef-fort to transfer patients out of state mental hospitals into community fa-

mental hospitals into communay ...
cilities.
"Halt the precipitous transfer and
placement of clients," says the proposed resolution sponsored by two
Republicans and 10 Democrats.

Among local co-sponsors are Democratic Sens. William Faust of Westland, George Z. Hart of Dearborn and Jack Faxon of Farmington Hills.

THE KEY TO reversing Engler's strategy are the two GOP names — chief sponsor Jack Welborn of Kalamazoo and co-sponsor Phil Arthurhultz chairs the committee Covernment Operations — which

Arthurbulta chairs the committee
— Government Operations — which
will handle the resolution. And as
majority floor leader, he is No. 2 in
rank in the Senate.
For years an Engler loyalist,
Arthurthulta was critical of Engler's
appointments to the Natural Resources Commission, too.

transferring patients out of state in-stitutions causes "major upheaval to individual clients and their families and requires great prudence and sen-

situity.

"THE SENATE and House are presently studying the policy, practice and future direction of deinstitutionalization and are investigating the services offered by county Community Mental Health Boards.

"Actions of the Department of Mental Health in Implementing new

service district guidelines 43 days prior to the expiration of the public review and comment period are contary to director (James) Haverman's claim that the department is engaging in careful planning with full input from the public."

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