

# 'Truth in sentencing' bill rustles up argument

By TIM RICHARD  
Staff Writer

The state Senate has passed two "truth in sentencing" bills and warnings the election-year bills will drive up prison costs.

"Certain people who are currently allowed to be in correctional centers or half-way houses prior to parole would not be eligible for that until after parole," said Sen. Jack Welborn, R-Kalamazoo, one of two nay votes on the popular bills.

"People want to vote on being tough on prisoners and criminals on a big television day," Welborn said, "but I think it is a mistake

to pass legislation that is going to undermine some of the alternative programs we put forth."

But the sponsor, Sen. William Van Regenmorter, R-Jenison, said the cost of letting prisoners go free too soon exceeds, immeasurably, the cost of keeping them behind bars until their minimum sentences have been served.

"The minute that 15-year person walks into the front door at Jackson prison," he said, "that sentence is going to be reduced to about 11.5 years for good time — it really doesn't matter whether you earn it or not."

Final passage came on a 34-2

vote. All area senators voted yes except David Honigman, R-West Bloomfield, who was recuperating from surgery.

The bills would:

- Assure that felons who commit crimes of assault crimes would serve at least the minimum sentence in secure confinement. Currently some may be paroled or released to half-way houses.

- Eliminate "good time," which can reduce an inmate's sentence by seven days per month and replace it with "bad time" under which an inmate's sentence could be lengthened beyond the minimum for prison infractions.

According to various fiscal estimates, the bills could cost the state 9,000 additional prison beds (currently 36,000 felons are behind bars), a one-time construction cost of \$90 million and annual operating costs of \$98 million. This year the Corrections Department budget is \$1.1 billion.

Support for the bills came from families of the victims of ex-convict Leslie Allen Williams, who left a trail of four brutally murdered young women in western Oakland and Livingston counties. Van Regenmorter, chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said perpetrators of violent crimes should not be eligible for alterna-

tive programs until their minimum sentences have been served. "We are talking half-way houses, we are talking furloughs where prisoners, often violent prisoners, are pretty much free to go about their business, whatever that business might be."

The Senate amended the bills to include carjacking among crimes to which the bills would apply.

Others are: first- or second-degree murder; kidnapping and hos-

tags-taking; drunken driving or drunken boating that causes death or long-term injury; burning buildings or natural resources; assault; robbery, armed or unarmed robbery; bank robbery; disarming a police officer; breaking and entering an occupied house; and first-degree child abuse and sexually abusive activity.

Refer to Senate Bills 40 and 41 when writing to your state representative, State Capitol, Lansing 48909.

## 'Literary Journeys' discussion group forms

The Agency for Jewish Education Community Library is forming "Literary Journeys," a free discussion group for those who enjoy sharing ideas, themes and meanings in short story literature.

The first discussion group will meet 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, May 5, and will feature the short story

"A Conversation with my Father" by Grace Paley. For more information or to register, call Julie Solomon at the Agency for Jewish Education Community Library at (810) 354-1050.

Further discussion groups on other influential authors and their works will meet 7:30-9 p.m. Thursdays, May 19 and June 2

and 10. All sessions will meet in the community library in the Agency for Jewish Education building at 21550 W. 12 Mile in Southfield.

Solomon describes the discussion groups as intimate gatherings structured around literature only. Participants will be provided

with reading materials free of charge. The stories will be read by the group in an informal manner. Refreshments will be provided.

Paley was born in 1922 and has a Russian Jewish Socialist background. She is a university professor in New York. The focus of her stories are family relationships.

### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS SUMMARY OF PUBLICATION CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING APRIL 25, 1994

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lichtman at 7:30 p.m. Members present: Bates, Grant, Lichtman, Oliverio, Sever, Smith and Vagnozzi. Others Present: City Manager Costick, City Clerk Dornan, Assistant City Manager Call, Directors Blaisell and Comstock, Fire Chief Marinucci and Attorney Donobue.

#### COUNCIL PROCLAMATIONS

Received the Fire Department's Annual Report.

- Authorized Staff to draft a resolution regarding State Revenue Sharing to bring back for Council's approval.
- Received Capital Improvement Program for 1994/95 through 1999/2000.
- Agreed to have City Manager Costick and Council Member Sever draft an outline for organizing the Grand River corridor study.
- Authorized Staff to proceed with full engineering for Mercy Center site plan.

#### APPROVED:

- Public hearing date of May 10, 1994, for cost hearing for Woodcreek Farms Subdivision road rehabilitation and drainage improvements.
- Exemption of Renaming Request 11-11-93 to rename property on the east side of Haggerty Road, north of Hills Tech Drive from RA-1, One-Family Residential to Industrial Research Office District.
- Contract with MDT for construction of 8-foot wide bike path along west side of Farmington Road from Heritage Park north to I-496.
- Special Event License for the Fire Department and Commission on Children, Youth and Families to hold "Safe Kids Night" at the Mercy Center on May 13, 1994.
- Special Event License for Project A.C.E.S. to hold a one mile walk on May 4, 1994.
- Dance permit to used in conjunction with 1994 Class C liquor license for Chalet of Farmington Hills, 30489 Grand River.
- Employment in accordance with 10.01A of the City Code.

LAWRENCE LIGHTMAN, Mayor  
KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk

Public: April 28, 1994

### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN ZONING AMENDATORY ORDINANCE ORDINANCE NO. C-9-94

An Ordinance to amend the City Code, Chapter 34, Zoning Chapter, of the City of Farmington Hills, to amend Section 34.33 to reclassify certain property as hereinafter mentioned.

The City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, hereby ordains:

Section 1. That the City Code of the City of Farmington Hills, Chapter 34, Zoning Chapter, be hereby amended in part to amend Section 34.33 to reclassify certain property in the City as follows: to show IRO, Industrial Research Office District classification where RA-1, One-Family Residential District classification is now shown in the area described as follows:

Sidwell No. 23-18-100-443  
A part of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 18, City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, commonly known as 26970 Haggerty Road, located on the east side of Haggerty Road, north of Hills Tech Drive.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

Section 3. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby ordered to take effect twenty-one days after their enactment.

Section 4. This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Council Members of the City of Farmington Hills, at a duly called meeting held on the 21st day of April, 1994, and ordered to be given publication in the manner prescribed by law.

LIGHTMAN, SMITH, SEVERIS, VAGNOZZI, GRANT,

OLIVERIO, BATES

NAYES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAINED: NONE

ADOPTED: 4/25/94

EFFECTIVE: 5/18/94

KATHRYN A. DORNAN  
City Clerk

Public: April 28, 1994

### NOTICE OF INTENTION OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO AUTHORIZE AND ISSUE THE FOLLOWING BONDS:  
ROAD IMPROVEMENTS  
PORTIONS OF SUPERVISOR'S MIDDLEBELT AND  
TEN MILE ROAD PLAT NO. 1 SUBDIVISION  
COST: \$67,700.00

TO ALL QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the intention of the City of Farmington Hills, a municipal corporation, to authorize and issue the following described bonds of the City of Farmington Hills:

STREET FROM TO  
Linden Avenue Middlebelt Road 133 ft. E. of Barfield  
Such bonds are to be issued by the City of Farmington Hills for the following purpose:

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS  
Such bonds will bear interest at a rate not exceeding 11% per annum to be determined at the time of the sale of said bonds.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that said bonds will be issued under and pursuant to the provisions of the Charter of the City of Farmington Hills, Act No. 379 of the Public Acts of Michigan 1908, as amended, and Act No. 352 of the Public Acts of Michigan 1943, as amended, and that the principal thereof and the interest thereon are payable from installments of special assessments in assessments are not sufficient to pay the interest on such bonds, the City will advance from its general funds sufficient moneys to pay such principal and interest. The City's ability to raise such funds is subject to applicable constitutional, statutory and charter limitations on the taxing power of the City.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that this notice is given by order of the Council of the City of Farmington Hills, Michigan, to and for the benefit of the electors of the City, in order to inform them that resolutions authorizing the issuance of said bonds will be adopted by the Council of the City of Farmington Hills and that said bonds will be issued without submitting the question of their issuance to the vote of the electors of the City, unless within 45 days from the publication of this notice, a petition signed by not less than 10% or 15,000, whichever is lesser, of the registered electors of the City, requesting a referendum upon the question of the issuance of such bonds, is filed with the City Clerk, in which event the bonds will not be issued unless and until approved by a majority of the electors of the City qualified to vote and voting thereon at a general or special election.

KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk  
City of Farmington Hills

Dated: April 26, 1994  
Public: April 28, 1994

## Stewart-Glenn Furniture IS GOING OUT OF BUSINESS

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