

Michigan legislators believe speaking should be free

Should state lawmakers and their staff members be required to address the public free of charge? Representatives in the Michigan House think so.

Members voted overwhelmingly last week to ban acceptance of "honoraria" or gifts for speeches. An amendment to the campaign finance act, sponsored chiefly by Rep. Sue Rocca (R-Sterling Heights), House Bill 4381 was passed in a 89-11 vote May 6.

Staff members of some state lawmakers have used honoraria as a fundraising technique in election campaigns.

The bill has been sent to the Senate for concurrence. Here's how Eccentric-area rep-

resentatives voted:

Reps. Mike Bishop (R-Rochester), Patricia Godchaux (R-Birmingham), Bob Gosselin (R-Troy), Ruth Johnson (R-Holly), John Pappageorge (R-Troy), and Marc Shulman (R-West Bloomfield) voted yes.

Rep. Nancy Quarles (D-Southfield) voted no.

Here's how Observer-area representatives voted:
Reps. Bob Brown (D-Dearborn Heights), Eileen DeHart (D-Westland), Tom Kelly (D-Wayne), Gerald Law (R-Plymouth), Bruce Patterson (R-Canton), Andrew Raczowski (R-Farmington Hills), Laura Toy (R-Livonia) voted yes.

Waste not, want not



Hazardous: The Hazardous Waste Day offered in the 47th District Court parking lot this past Saturday drew a steady line of customers. Here, left to right, is Mike Gullen of Waste Management in Southfield, Ron Brown and Donell Brown from Onsite, who are filling steel drums with oil. Residents were encouraged to use the event as a means of cleaning hazardous materials out of their homes.

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