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4 Senators Back Tax Cuts--With Reservations

An Observer Roundup

LANSING
A tax package which was judged to be "good politics but bad money management" passed that State Senate last week with support from Observerland's four senators.

The \$385 million tax cut package was supported by Sens. Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth), David Plawecki (D-DeARBorn Heights), William Faust (D-Westland) and Daniel Cooper (D-Oak Park). It passed in a 32-24 53-1 vote on the two-bill package.

The package differs from a House-approved package and is expected to be referred to a conference committee when the legislators return from Easter break.

While the senators were engaged in a vigorous debate over the package, Pursell cautioned that the package proposes short-range solutions.

"We're not looking at the long-range solutions," Pursell said. He cited a report by the Citizens Research Council of Michigan which states that general purpose spending has increased at an annual average of 15.4 per cent between 1963 and 1972.

"Appropriations for 1973 are 15.4 per cent above 1972 spending levels, and executive budget recommendations are 15.1 per cent above 1973 appropriations levels," the citizens study states.

The citizens group projects an \$83 million deficit by 1975 if current levels of spending are maintained, Pursell noted.

The tax package reinstates tax credits and contains a clause which states that in cases where property taxes exceed 3.5 per cent of income, the state will pay 60 per cent of the excess in the form of tax credits.

Although Pursell supported this provision, he said that the state should be moving in the direction of lessening

property taxes for school financing. If the income tax becomes the chief means of financing schools and property taxes are reduced, the effect of the tax credit will be lessened.

At one point in the discussion, Cooper proposed an amendment reducing the income tax exemption from \$1,500 to \$1,400, but his amendment failed. Cooper said the amendment would make more money for special education and other programs that senators have said they will support.

"I have pledged that special education will be funded this year," Cooper said in proposing his amendment. "I don't want to get in the position where there isn't enough money for it."

Faust supported the amendment, but Pursell and Plawecki voted against it.

The most vigorous opponent of the package was Sen. Coleman Young (D-Detroit), who said "it's as hard to vote against a tax cut as it is to vote against motherhood."

He termed the cuts as "irresponsible" in light of state financing woes.

The bills also boost income tax credits on intangibles including bank deposits and savings and loan shares from \$100 on single returns to \$175 and from \$200 on joint returns to \$350.

Owners of vacation property or other property which they don't live on won't get a tax credit under the Senate bill. Owners of farm land may be exempted.



DANIEL R. ANDREW of Livonia, one of the organizers of the new real estate development firm of Damone & Associates, Inc., with headquarters in Troy, will serve as the company's senior vice president. Formerly marketing manager of the Campbell Development Co., he served seven years as coordinator for the Livonia Industrial Development Commission and is chairman of Livonia Planning Commission.

Obscenity Bill Splits Reps, 5-2

Observerland representatives split last week 5-2 against a bill which would have protected employees of movie houses showing objectionable films from prosecution.

The bill was defeated 59 to 41. It would have protected employees such as a projectionist who doesn't have a financial interest in the motion picture or theater who doesn't have authority in determining which movies will be shown.

Voting for the bill were Reps. R. Robert Geake (R-Northville), Joseph Forbes (D-Oak Park), and John Markes (D-Westland).

Opposition votes were cast by Reps. Raymond Baker (R-Farmington), John Bennett (D-Redford Township), Thomas Brown (D-Westland), William Keith (D-Gar-

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Vaccination Clinics Set In Area Dems' Hatchet Misses Fackler

Providence Hospital in Southfield is sponsoring a free polio and measles/rubella vaccination clinic on Saturday, May 12.

Fackler was the Republican candidate against U.S. Rep. William Ford (D-Taylor) in the November election.

He was appointed to the bureau post last fall and will continue in that position unless the State Legislature takes action to unseat him before May 4.

Fackler's appointment was up for confirmation in the State Senate last week when a rejection attempt made by Democrats failed.

Ernest Fackler of Dearborn Heights will remain director of the Bureau of Workmen's Compensation.

Fackler's appointment was up for confirmation in the State Senate last week when a rejection attempt made by Democrats failed.

Sen. William Faust (D-Westland) asked that Fackler's appointment be considered separate from others

and then urged that Fackler be rejected because he allegedly used his position for "furthering political ambitions."

Although several Democrats criticized using an office to further their political ambitions, Republicans countered that it was an "overblown case" and that many politicians take on positions as stepping stones to higher offices.

The rejection attempt failed in an 18 to 17 party line vote. Twenty votes were needed for rejection.

Faust and Sen. David Plawecki (D-DeARBorn Heights) voted against Fackler's nomination, and Sen. Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth) voted for it. Sen. Daniel Cooper (D-Oak Park) wasn't present for the vote.

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SEMTA Names Planning Chief

Cleveland Brown of Detroit has been appointed director of physical planning for the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority.

Brown has been physical planning and development administrator for the model neighborhood agency in Detroit and formerly was city planner for the agency.

He holds a bachelor's degree in urban planning from Michigan State University and is a member of the American Society of Planning Officials, Michigan Society of Planning Officials and American Institute of Planners.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

April 20, 1973

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