

Landmark County Reform Bill Clears House

By KATHY MORAN

Pursell's bill is the first county reform by the Michigan Legislature in 100 years. Reapportionment came about through a court decision.

It's like the end of a long race, said Sen. Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth) after he passed the last major hurdle for his county reorganization proposal.

Reforming county government has been Pursell's goal for the last five years since serving on the Wayne County Board of Commissioners, and he came close to accomplishing it Wednesday when the State House approved his plan in a 71-23 vote. It passed the Senate 33-0 earlier this year.

All local representatives supported the bill except

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Fish License Bill Supported

LANSING Commercial and sport fishing interests clashed under a

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bill which passed the State House last week, increasing commercial fishing licenses in Michigan from 177 to 250 for next year.

The bill, which was opposed by the Dept. of Natural Resources, was supported by six local representatives and opposed by two. It passed on a 66 to 26 vote.

Voting for the increase were Reps. John Bennett (D-Redford Township), Thomas Brown (D-Westland), Joseph Forbes (D-Oak Park), R. Robert Geake (R-Northville), William Keith (D-Garden City) and John Markes (D-Westland).

Rep. Raymond Baker (R-Farmington) and Raymond Smit (R-Ann Arbor) were opposed.

Proponents said that the increase in commercial fishing would increase the amount of fish on the market and contribute to lower prices.

Opponents said that increasing commercial fishing would decrease the amount of sport fishing and hurt the tourist economy in northern Michigan.



ROGER H. CRIMMINS has been appointed vice president and Michigan regional manager of the commercial division of Citizens Mortgage Corp., Southfield. Crimmins, of Orchard Lake, earned a degree from Miami (O.) University and has six years experience in mortgage banking and has worked for the Dalley and Kelly mortgage companies.

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State Meat Posting Bill OK'd

LANSING A bill requiring markets to post signs if the meat they sell or serve is not up to Michigan standards was passed by the State House last week with support of Observer's representatives.

The bill was a response to the current controversy over Michigan standards for the products used in making hot dogs. Michigan's standards are higher than federal standards and the state's residents are being urged to buy Michigan made hot dogs.

Voting for the bill, which passed on a 53 to 6 vote, were Reps. Raymond Baker (R-Farmington), John Bennett (D-Redford Township), Thomas Brown (D-Westland), Joseph Forbes (D-Oak Park), R. Robert Geake (R-Northville), William Keith (D-Garden City), John Markes (D-Westland), and Raymond Smit (R-Ann Arbor).

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The final product gives county commissions the opportunity to put a proposal for an elected county executive or an appointed county manager on the ballot for final approval by the electorate.

It also guarantees that if the commissioners fail to take action, the electorate can petition to get either proposal put on the ballot.

In the end, Pursell hopes that a county official with responsibility for administering the county will drive a wedge

into the county bureaucracy. It's a viable alternative to county home rule which has been defeated in Wayne County several times because of fear of changing the tax structure.

Pursell's bill doesn't affect the tax structure and simply enables counties to change their administrative structure.

"It is a very specific proposal which will be more easily identifiable for the average citizen," Pursell said.

The closest the bill came to a partisan struggle was a House amendment to make election of a county execu-

tive in a presidential election year rather than during the gubernatorial election year, as Pursell proposed. The Democratic House passed this amendment because Democrats generally do better during the presidential elections.

The bill is the first county reform by the state legislature in 100 years, Pursell said. Another major reform which initiated election of county commissioners was a court decision, he said.

The proliferation of boards, commissions and authorities which currently exists in county government stems from the time of the old board of supervisors when local officials met monthly at luncheon for a quick review of county problems, a little socializing and then the officials returned to their cities and townships, he said.

"Consequently, they historically delegated everything to the road commission, authorities, various constitutional offices and the like," Pursell said. "What happened was that the commissions, in order to do their job right, ended going to Lansing to get statutory powers to strengthen their domain."

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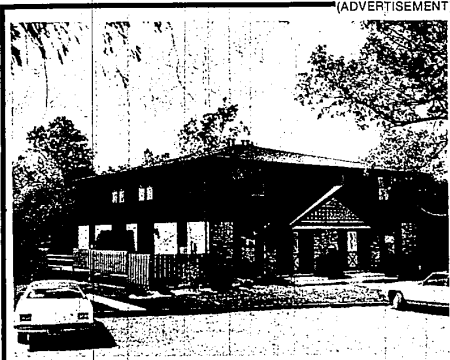
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Model units, as seen from the entrance drive



From valley, wooden decks are highlighted.

Adult condominiums shown Wooded valley offers a view

Four plex condominiums set in a woods on the edge of a valley of Plymouth Township are being offered from \$33,900 with only 71 units on 10 acres.

Called Sycamore Valley, the development is on Ann Arbor Trail, just west of Haggerty.

Styling features include broad wooden decks overlooking the valley. Some of the units have lower-level family rooms which open onto the valley by means of sliding glass door-walls. Dining areas open onto sun decks.

Each building will have four units, two facing the front and two overlooking the valley. All are two large bedrooms with "his and her" closets, two main floors and a basement.

Other features include: special Adler-Kay kitchen cabinets, Tappan dishwasher, disposal, compactor, refrigerator, range with hood, carpeting, ceramic tiled bath, insulated glass windows and screens, Chrysler gas heat and central air conditioning, fire alarm system in each unit, circuit breakers, pre-wired color T.V. cables with antenna, and the old traditional heavy moldings used

in the 20's are standard. Sound proofing is accomplished by use of a complete double wall construction - separated - between each unit with additional fire board and double insulation. Other external features include carport, underground utilities and sprinkling system, professional landscaping, nature trails, waterfall, gazebo, BBQ pits, set on 2½ acres of parkland overlooking the river.

All on black top roads. Optional features available at extra cost include: finished lower level, as shown in the model, a balcony off the bedroom, an extra lavatory, a gas fireplace and sauna.

The models are open every day from 8 A.M. to dusk. Our phone number is 453-0440. Sycamore Valley