## Group pushes for constitutional spending lid

By KAREN ANNE ROPEIKIN
Michigan voters may get the chance
to put a Id on state spending with a
constitutional ameralment.
Dick Headler, head of Tazpayers
United, Inc., a group which has organized a petition drive to limit state
spending, wants a proposed amendment to the state constitution placed
on the November 1978 ballot. on the November 1978 ballot.

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Headlee, a vice-president of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, believes the increasing gap between state spending and personal income in Mighigan is overtaxing residents. The Application of the Michigan is overtaxing residents and the Michigan is overtaxing residents and the Michigan is overtaxing at a greater rate than commercially at the Michigan is similar to Proposal C, which was defeated in the November 1976 election.

The issue, like Proposal C, would limit state spending to a certain percentage of personal income of Michigan residents.

Headlee maintains that this pro-posed amendment is more com-prehensive and flexible than the defeated Proposal C.

The Farmington Hills man talked about the proposal and presented a short filmstrip about the petition drive at a recent Livonia Republicans meet-ing in the Hines Park Inn, Plymouth Road near Newburgh.

HE AND HIS CO—WORKERS must get 266,000 signatures of registered voters by May 1 to get the proposal on the November ballot.

"Restraints must be placed on the state's spending," Headlee said.

There is excessive taxation of those Prefer is excessive taxation of mose persons on fixed incomes, and the discretionary income of others is being eaten up with taxes," he continued. "Let's look at what has happened in Michigan in the last 10 years."

## 'Taxes too high'

Headlee showed several graphs relating to personal income and state

custing to personal income and state spending.
"The personal income of the state is up 145 per cent since 1968," he said.
"While state spending is up 235 per cent.

"Michigan's population is up a only 6.75 per cent while the number of state employees is up 50 per cent."

Headlee discussed what he called the most "revealing figures."

Personal income, is up 145 per cent, far less than the state income tax in the last 10 years, he said. "If we, as taxpayers, don't stop the legislators from over spending, we'll be taxed to death."

HEADLEE EXPLAINED how his

HEADLEE EXPLAINED how his proposal would limit state taxes.

"The proposal, if passed," he explained, "will put all state taxation under voter control and will not allow legislators to exceed a specified level of spending unless they go to the waters.

or spenting annual and voters.

"I'll tell you right now that the bureaucrats in Lansing aren't going to like this proposal. They don't want the voters to get involved in making decisions.

voters to get invoived in Hisking technisms.

The president and chief executive of Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. explained that the proposal would not allow legislatures to increase spending unless the personal income of Michigan were increased.

"Unless the legislators do something

to increase the state income level, they won't get any more money." he said. "They'll learn that they have to encourage new businesses and new money for Michigan. If they realize that, we won't lose another auto plant

that, we won't lose another auto plant like we recently lost the Ford trans-mission plant to Ohio.

"There's nothing wrong with making it healthy in Michigan for business," he said to the group of 25 Republicans.
"When businesses settle in Mich-igan, that means jobs. And jobs mean press personal income for the other."

more personal income for the state.

THE PROPOSED CON-SITIUTIONAL amendment contains eight regulations.
The amendment would:

-Limit state tax rate to a specific percentage of Michigan personal income.

-Provide for tax refunds to resi-dents if there is excess of the state limit collected of more than one per

cent. Otherwise, the surplus will be transferred to the state budget stabilization fund.

Provide for an extra tax levy foy one year, without wher approval, if state legislators and governor agree there is an emergency.

Forbid state mandated programs to local governments without providing funds.

to local governments without provid-ing funds.

•Provide that state support to local governments will not be reduced below present levels.

•Require voter approval to exceed established tax limit except in emer-cancies.

•Forbid present shifting of state tax to local property tax without voter approval.

oprovat.
•Require voter approval of all new

Require voter approximation of sixues.

"The proposed amendment simply requires that we have a progressive, responsive, accountable government." Headlee concluded.

## Blues unveil mobile dental exam plan

Quality control is the name of the

Quality control is the name or the game.
Blue Cross-Blue Shield, one of the largest dental insurance carriers in the state, last week unveiled its mobile post-treatment dental examination program at Schoolcraft College.
The examination facilities are boused in a van, allowing the Blues to take the program to the customers—at factories or shopping centers, for example.

reactives or snopping centers, for example,
"We're trying to check the quality of dentistry being rendered," said Ruth Ann Klatt, a spokeswoman for Blue-Cross-Blue Shield. "And we're trying to verify that no fraud is being committed," she added.

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to venty that no traud is being committed. 'She added.

The new program is part of a larger picture, though. The company is pressing to keep insurance premiums down. One way of doing it is to check the quality of service and the truthfullness of claims.

of claims.

Company officials could not estimate how much money could be saved through such procedures.

Mrs. Klatt said the company had dis-covered a number of dentists who were doing "less than satisfactory" work. She said the company also iden-tified several dentists who had attempted to defraud the company by billing it for work which was not done.

These examinations will "definitely be a deterrent to the fraud," Mrs.

Klatt said.

She explained that it would be easy for patients to allow the fraudulent billing practices to slip past.

"The patients," Mrs. Klatt said, "are not really sure what all the codes and nomenclature mean."

In cases where inferior work is uncovered. Blue Cross-Blue Shield asks the dentist to redo the work at no additional cost to either the patient or

The post-treatment examination is part of the contract between Ford's UAW members and Blue Cross-Blue Shield. The company, however, is making the service available to all people covered by its dental policies.

## Secretaries plan meeting

The Oakland Association of Educational Secretaries (OAES) will hold its spring dinner meeting March 14 at Manon Junior High: Waterford Towrship. Registration will begin at 6:20 p.m., followed by dinner at 7.

Terry Thomas, director of child accounting for Oakland Schools, will speak.

All secretarial and clerical employ-ees in public education in Oakland County can join OAES and are invited to attend. For more details and reser-vations, call Melva Artman, 879-0500.

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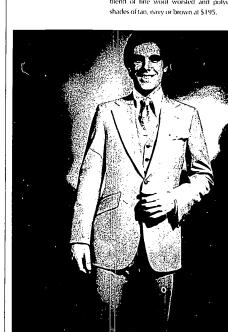




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