

Tax Relief Comes 40 Years Late

EDITOR:

The proposed bill to eliminate school taxes on the homes of homeowners who are 65 is just about 40 years too late for most people.

At the age of 65 the average homeowner has a house that is probably paid off, a family that is raised, and no worries about his income tax. If he is in good health he is likely to sell his house at market value, pay his capital gains tax, and move on to more suitable climates for retirement.

If he is in poor health he doesn't have much choice but to sell his house in order to pay for his medical needs or hospitalization.

Elimination of the school tax at age 25 instead of 65 would eliminate an unjust confiscatory tax during the 40-year period when property tax relief is needed most. Expenses

are highest while a family is being raised and not after you reach 65.

By replacing the tax on homes with a tax on income you would make it easier for both the young and the old because the threat of losing a home during periods of unemployment or sickness would be minimized and the chances are that the revenue from income taxes would be higher than the revenue from property taxes.

A by product of a tax on income instead of a tax on property would be a more sincere effort on the part of all to

create conditions resulting in full employment for the purpose of increasing income tax revenue instead of the current practice of increasing the taxes on the homes of the poor or the taxes on the necessities of life such as food, clothing, and medical supplies.

The proposed bill to eliminate the school tax on the homes of those who are 65 should be amended to include all homeowners regardless of age.

STANLEY L. GLAMB
Plymouth

Raps Proposed Ticket Drive

EDITOR:

It was with considerable disgust that I read about Judge Mies' proposed "1,000-per-month traffic ticket quota" (front page, Livonia Observer, July 22) as a means of ending the carnage on our roads.

Tickets for going 10 MPH over the limit or for a noisy muffler don't stop the problem driver, dope addict or unattractive driver from killing people or causing serious injury and damages on our highways. The police can issue 10,000 tickets per month to support themselves and city hall and the problem will still

be as bad as before probably with a number of studies by leading universities and traffic safety engineers bear this out. So do the better educated Michigan State police.

Until the judges and local police crack down on the accident-prone, oddie, not necessarily ticket-prone drivers that is, the real goal is to get the attention of these people away from hogging the road by lane cuts in front of cars and trucks, tailgating, and about-turns, and to get them to yield the right of way to the car that follows the one in front to the right rather than across its front and sides, and to the appropriate amount of width in the process, until they mount a campaign against these people. Livonia and other cities that are looking for a way to solve the traffic and injury problem need to take this course.

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EDITOR:

On the first page of a pamphlet recently distributed urging the reelection of Ford to the State Senate, it stated: "His wheelchair is his constant companion. Well, let's separate him from that wheelchair for a few minutes and take a look again at a state senator-wheelchair."

I agree he has the courage of the early senators. Ford is "One Helluva Guy." Ford is not the type of guy to throw the raps over the side when he loses this election. He is a senator who has been faced and conquered, let's get on to the issues.

Ford's pamphlet also stated: "If his brain can't serve him in politics, his guts don't." This is what we need in a senator. This is what we need in a state senator.

Ford has my attention, my confidence and my vote. ALOP WANDERLIE, Grand Rapids

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"My Buddy"



READERS' FORUM

Letters must be limited to 300 words. Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause. Please type or write plainly. The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

Retiree Gets An Answer

EDITOR'S NOTE — This letter is from State Rep. Vincent J. Pettipren who is seeking reelection in the Aug. 4 Democratic primary for state senator, in the 13th District. His letter is in response to one written by William Seifert, of Wayne, and carried under the headline "Retiree Rips Pettipren" in last Wednesday's issue of the Observer.

Dear Mr. Seifert: I certainly appreciate your letter to the editor because it gives me the opportunity to clarify some misunderstandings you have and possibly other people share with you.

In regard to your correspondence a few weeks ago, I will respect your privacy and not divulge the nature of your request.

As your state representative for six years, I would like to inform you I have never been a member of the Education Committee but rather the chairman of College and Universities and vice chairman of Taxation Committee and vice chairman of State Affairs. I was also acting chairman of the governor's special conference committee for taxation reform this year.

I was a co-sponsor of the first Homestead Exemption Act of 1968 and again I was co-sponsor of the Homestead Act of 1970. I am chief sponsor of the Grandfather Act of 1968 which established the only institute of its kind in the United States.

It is this very institute that has provided me with the research data to move ahead with "my dream." The data

EDITOR:

Congratulations! I truly hope that your recent merger with the Southfield News will be most beneficial to both newspapers, as well as to the communities which they will serve.

Your excitement and enthusiasm is very understandable. This is another great news adventure and an attempt to project the news to Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Franklin, Lathrup and Southfield in the most expeditious manner. The first edition of the Southfield News & Observer

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Son Found, Give Thanks

EDITOR:

We wish to thank the Livonia Police Dept. for its speed and efficiency in coming to our aid when our little boy wandered off last Sunday. We especially thank Patrolmen Gerald Lenard and Robert Zaskach for their thought and concern, and all the wonderful neighbors, friends and people with big hearts who put out every effort to find our son.

We wish to especially thank Mr. James Sykes, who found our boy and quickly called Redford police. Officer John Jarrell answered the call and turned him over to Livonia police.

We thank everyone for all their help and prayers, and thank God we were fortunate

to have as many show their love and concern. God bless you all.

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