

Bill would ban sale of Secretary of State lists

Names and addresses of licensed drivers and vehicle owners in Michigan could no longer be sold for commercial purposes under legislation introduced by state Sen. Jack Faxon, D-Farmington Hills.

Faxon is proposing the change in law to end the common practice of list sales, which is thought to contribute to the larger problem of junk mail in Michigan.

"Based on state statute, the secretary of state makes the names and addresses of drivers and vehicle owners available for sale," Faxon said.

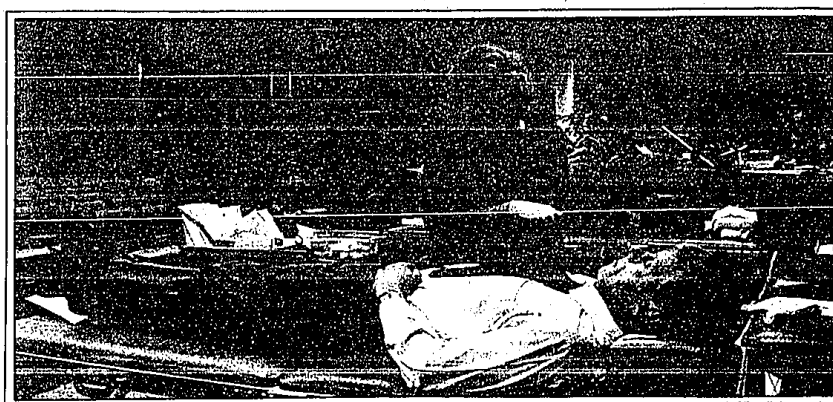
"While the secretary of state requires the purchaser to guarantee that the information will be used strictly for legal and commercial purposes, that includes for too many possibilities that the general public finds objectionable."

BEFORE A list is sold by the secretary of state, the buyer must post a \$10,000 surety bond and sign an agreement that the information will be used for legal and commercial purposes. The buyer can request the names and addresses of broad categories of drivers or vehicle owners based on information maintained by the secretary of state, such as age, place of residence or type of vehicle owned.

While buyers are charged for the list, with those revenues going to the state's general fund, the proceeds amounted to less than \$350,000 in 1987.

The only exceptions allowed under the Faxon proposal would be the sale of information to manufacturers who must notify vehicle owners of a vehicle defect or recall, and, the sale of information for research or statistical purposes. Under those circumstances, the identity of the individuals named in the list would be protected and not ascertainable from the research of statistics gathered.

"The secretary of state has been criticized for selling lists which the law allows," Faxon said. "Since the department does not support the sale of information for commercial purposes and because the general public is outraged over the apparent invasion of privacy, it is time to change the law."



Gift of life

Dave Justus of the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services gives the gift of life — blood — during an American Red Cross blood donor drive April 27 in Farmington Hills City Hall. Red Cross staff nurse Kellie Jeffords is drawing the blood. The five-hour drive was held in the council chambers.

Farmington seniors to party all night

Farmington High School parents are planning an all-night graduation party for the Class of 1989. With the theme "Parade of Stars," the party is slated for June 13 following graduation ceremonies at the Ford Auditorium.

"We have a lot of great ideas, and I think this will be one of the best all-night parties ever," said chair of the event's donations committee, Sharon Lee. "Since this will be the 100th graduating class . . . we are really going all out to make it something the kids will remember."

Farmington parents are soliciting prizes and contributions from area businesses, which have helped in making past parties successful. They will go door-to-door on Saturday, May 6, to ask for help.

As with other, similar functions, the Farmington High party was started as an annual event to help graduates have a safe and memorable celebration. This is the fifth year parents have coordinated an all-night party at Farmington High.

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