# House Democrats face utility tax decisions

By Tim Richard
staff writer

House Democrats in Lansing must decide what price they want to pass the utility tax, which is earmarked for for Senate Republican passage of a 5 percent utility tax for the city of Detroit Coloran Young 'prefers worked out if this bill is going anywhere,' Sen. Norm Shinkte, R-Money, chair of the tax-writing Senate Finance Committee, warned recentification of the state of the tax-writing Senate Finance Committee, warned recentifications of the state of t

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committee.

THE PRICES the GOP will demand could be either passage by the Democrat-controlled House of a Senate-passed bill to repeal the inheritance tax (SB 1) or support of a GOP property tax reliel measure.

Wayne Circuit-Judge Marvin Stemplen last month declared that Detroit's 5 percent tax on local telephone, natural gas, electricity and steam bills had expired in mid-1881. If his ruling stands, Detroit would have to refund \$100 million of past collections and lose \$60 million a year in future collections.

As lawmakers argued Tuesday, Stemplen extended into April his deadline for legislative re-enactment of the tax.

In FARMINGTON Hills, Richard

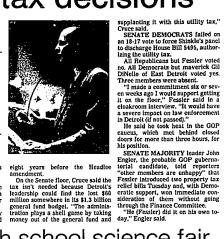
ment of the tax.

IN FARMINGTON Hills, Richard
Headlee, the insurance executive
whose name is on the Headlee tax
limitation amendment, declared the
Legislature lacks power to reinstate
the tax.

Work by 2,600 metro area high school students will be on display through Saturday at the 33rd Science and Engineering Fair in the Michi-gan Hall of the Cobo Conference and Exhibition Center on Detroit's river-

'The administration plays a shell game by taking money out of the general fund and supplanting it with this utility tax.

— Sen. Doug Cruce R-Troy



publicist. "The state constitution is not negotiable." Headlee contends that because the tax expired, the restoration bill is a new tax, hence subject to a popular vote under the Headlee amendment. Detroit's attorneys, however, say it's an extension of a tax passed

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Viewing of exhibits will be open to the public today and Friday 9 a.m. to the public today and Friday 9 a.m. to sp.m. expected to participate, making it one of the largest science fairs in the United States.

Cobo hosts area high school science fair

Students in grades 7-12, representing more than 160 schools in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb countles, are les, cryogenics and blology.

Eight grand award winners will represent Detroit May 6-12 at the In-ternational Science and Engineering Fair in Tuisa, Okia, Grand award winners will be saluted at a noon luncheon Friday in room W153 of Cobo Center.

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