

Headlee petition gets boost from legislator

By Tim Richard
staff writer

Gov. John Engler's closest political ally this week joined the effort to put the Headlee II property tax cut before voters.

Senate Majority leader Dick Posthumus, R-Ann Arbor, introduced a resolution asking the Board of State Canvassers to certify the Headlee group's petitions.

"This is great. I revel in its delight," said Bill McMaster, Bloomfield Township publicist and spokesman for Taxpayers United, the group chaired by Richard Headlee.

"There is no reason for the Secretary of State, Bureau of Elections and Board of Canvassers to hold up these petitions.

"It has taken them longer (seven months) to act on these petitions than it did for us to collect them (six

months)," McMaster said.

FILED LAST September, the petitions ask the Michigan Legislature to pass a law cutting property taxes 20 percent across the board. The state would reimburse local units for \$1.5 billion in lost revenue.

If the Legislature fails to adopt it, the proposal automatically would go on the 1992 ballot, according to the state constitution.

Headlee, chairman of Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. in Farmington Hills, contends the group collected 191,000 signatures.

'It has taken them longer (seven months) to act on these petitions than it did for us to collect them (six months).

— Bill McMaster
Taxpayers United

But officials in Secretary of State Richard Austin's office have continually found fault with petition signatures.

McMaster noted that the Michigan Education Association, largest teachers union in the state, began in-

tervening with its objections on March 4.

McMASTER, who drafted some of the Senate resolution language, said he solicited help from members of civil rights-related committees such

as Sen. Jack Welborn, R-Kalamazoo, and Rep. Margaret O'Connor, R-Ann Arbor.

"I did not expect it from Posthumus," McMaster said.

Posthumus has been a political chum of Engler's since their school days in 4-H. He was assistant for four years when Engler was Senate majority leader and succeeded Engler in the post.

The Posthumus resolution says the Legislature "made a significant first step" last week in passing a property tax assessment freeze, but that step "was only the beginning."

It says the Board of Canvassers'

action is being held up "only by technical considerations." It urged the canvassers to certify the Headlee initiative.

The resolution is only advisory but has the effect of putting political heat on the canvassers.

If Headlee II, as the proposal is called, is certified, most likely it would go before voters. Actions in the Democratic-controlled House indicate it has no chance of passage there.

House Democrats prefer a plan to cut property taxes on smaller households and raise business taxes to pay for the cuts.



Sen. Lana Pollack
D-Ann Arbor

WAND gives Lana Pollack peace award

State Sen. Lana Pollack, D-Ann Arbor, will travel to Oakland County early next month to receive the Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament Mother's Day Peace award.

WAND's annual Mother's Day Brunch is set for 9:30 a.m. Friday, May 10, at the Birmingham Community House, 350 S. Bates.

Pollack is being honored for her work in opposing the MX Rail-Based Missile in Michigan and for passing the state's Polluter Pay Bill.

"The brunch is open to the public. For the \$15 ticket call 352-0568.

"Stealth or Health?" is the topic of the keynote speech by Agnes Mansour, executive director of the Poverty and Social Reform Institute. Mansour has served as director of the Michigan Department of Social Services, president of Mercy College of Detroit and was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame in 1988.

Local WAND members planning the brunch are: Marilyn Schechter, West Bloomfield; Arlene Victor, Birmingham; Harriet Alpern, Bloomfield Township; and Lorraine Lerner, Southfield. Others are Terry Fuyoye, Southgate; Kay Gee, Grosse Pointe; and Mildred Jeffrey and Barbara Levin, Detroit.

The WAND Mother's Peace Day Award Brunch commemorates the intent of Julia Ward Howe, who originated Mother's Day as a time for women to "take counsel with each other as to the means whereby the great human family can live in peace."

WAND is a national organization with a goal to eliminate weapons of mass destruction and redirect to human and environmental needs the resources used for excessive military spending.

OCC links kids environment

The Highland Lakes Campus of Oakland Community College will sponsor a free Environmental Awareness Day beginning 10 a.m. Saturday, April 27.

Activities include tree planting for children and presentations on the environment in the year 2010, disposing of hazardous household waste and gardening without chemicals. A variety of vegetarian foods will be available. Additional information is available through the Environmental Action Club at 360-3041, or 360-3072.

The Highland Lakes Campus is at 7350 Cooley Lake Road, Union Lake.

OCC hosting spring concert

The Warren-based Detroit Tambrizza Orchestra will present its annual Spring Concert Saturday, April 27, at the Royal Oak campus of Oakland Community College.

The concert begins at 8 p.m. at the Jones-Johnson Theatre, 739 S. Washington in Royal Oak.

EVERYTHING GOES

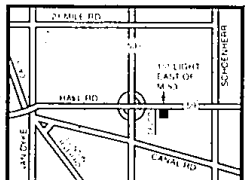
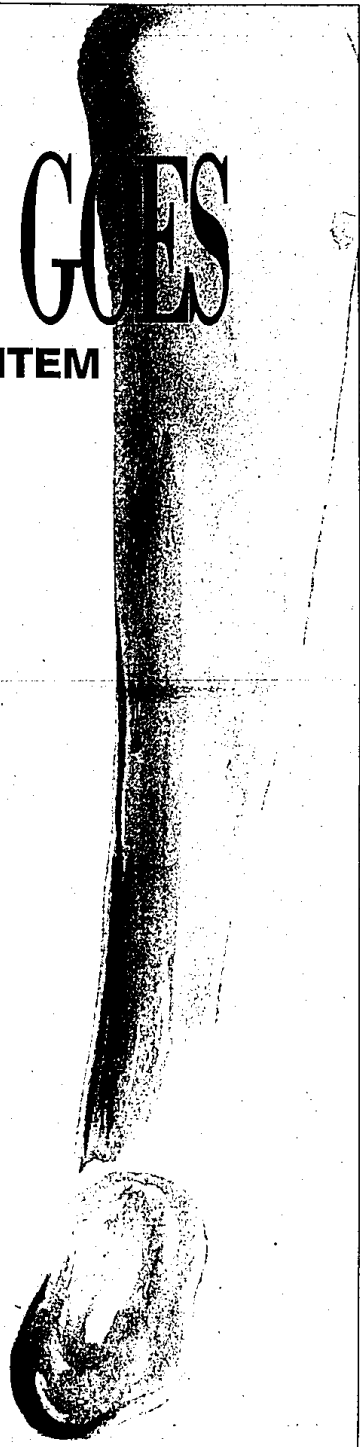
MINIMUM 50% OFF EVERY ITEM



EXTRAORDINARY REDUCTIONS!

- Sofas—many fabrics—from \$366
- Chairs—many styles—from \$199
- Bedrooms—complete sets—from \$1475
- Leather Sofas—from \$777
- Lamps—from \$49

Scott Shuptrine is re-merchandising. Now, for just a short time, you can take advantage of major price reductions on America's best furniture lines. These are floor samples, manufacturers samples, cancellations . . . some may be nicked or scratched . . . but you'll never ever find this quality at these prices! Shop early for best selection.



Use your Visa, Mastercard, Discover Card or Scott's Revolving Charge

Scott Shuptrine

Fine Furniture Since 1927

FRIDAY • SATURDAY • SUNDAY ONLY
ONE LOCATION ONLY
12200 Hall Road, Sterling Heights, MI, (313) 739-5100
Friday 10 a.m - 9 p.m. • Saturday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. • Sunday 12 Noon - 5:30 p.m.