

# State aid bill causes local districts to realize fears

Despite heavy opposition from Observer & Eccentric-area legislators, a controversial school aid bill passed the state House on Monday, a move expected to cost many area schools millions of dollars.

The measure limits state Social Security contributions, "takes sharing credits and changes the formula for adult education grants."

The state Senate narrowly approved the measures last week.

The House initially rejected the measures but approved them, 66-49 in a second vote.

The measure passed with only one area legislator voting yes. Thomas Middleton, R-Orionville voted yes. Those voting no included: Maxine Derman, D-Southfield; Barbara Dobb, R-Union Lake; John Jamian, R-Birmingham; Jan Dolan, D-Farmington Hills and Wilfred

## EDUCATION

Webb, D-Hazel Park.

William Keith, D-Garden City, chairman of the House education committee also voted no.

Out-of-formula districts — those that receive state aid only for specific programs — are considered the biggest losers.

Biggest losers locally are expected to include: Farmington, \$7.6 million; Birmingham, \$5.6 million; Bloomfield Hills, \$5.4 million; Troy, \$4.8 million; Southfield, \$3.9 million; Rochester, \$3.1 million; Walled Lake, \$1.4 million and Avondale, \$679,000, according to preliminary figures provided through Oakland Schools.

Major changes include:

- Per-student aid — 18-20 year-olds with high school diplomas would no longer be counted, cutting aid to districts with aggressive adult education programs.

- Adult education — In an additional change, certain classes known as "not funded" — would no longer be automatically financed. Instead, money for these programs would be placed in a new, competitive grant program with payment capped at \$25 million.

- Social Security — State payments would be limited under a complex formula based on enrollments.

- Tax base sharing — Payments are suspended pending outcome of a suit involving Macomb County. All actions were among those contained in a joint House/Senate conference committee report.

## Area students win scholarships

Students from the Bloomfield Hills, Rochester and West Bloomfield school districts were among those receiving scholarships under the new Nipponens/Oakland Schools Education foundation scholarship program.

Tommy Chen of Rochester Hills and Annette User of West Bloomfield each received a \$1,000 university scholarship for the 1992-93 school year.

Chen, a Rochester Adams graduate, is majoring in applied art/design at the University of Michigan. User, a West Bloomfield High School graduate, is majoring in chemical engineering at U-M.

**Tommy Chen of Rochester Hills and Annette User of West Bloomfield each received a \$1,000 university scholarship for the 1992-93 school year.**

Arts scholarship recipients include Nicole Milenkovich of Rochester and Eric Moss of Bloomfield Hills. Both received a \$500 scholarship toward the study this summer at the Interlochen music

program.

Milenkovich is studying violin and attends Hart Middle School in the Rochester Community Schools. Moss is studying voice and theater and attends Cranbrook Middle School.

In all 10 scholarships, totaling \$8,000, were awarded.

The foundation was created in September 1991 through a \$200,000 endowment from Nipponens Inc. of Southfield. The company recently added \$50,000 and will make a final \$50,000 contribution next year.

The scholarship program is administered through Oakland Schools.

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