Lansing takes aim at medical malpractice

BY TIM RICHARD STAPF WEITER

A bill to curb medical malprac-tice lawsuits and costs is good but "not a panacea," said one of its

tice lawauita and costa is good but "not a panaco," said one of its major supporters.

"it's an important atep in bringing down costa. But we have long way to go in other areas," said-tate Rep. John Jamian, R. Biolomfield Township, after the House passed the measure 72-99. A coalition of many Republicans and some Democrata passed tenneys in both parties failed to weaken it. It's aimed at cutting medical malpractice costs 15 percent by capping "pain and suffering" jury awards, raising standards for "experie" witnesses, and requiring 182-day notices before suins. The House Thurday fell sven votes short of the two-thirds may be short of the short of the two-thirds may be short of the s

mittee.

Jamian said the bill is legally tied to a package of bills his committee produced to speed up and tighten regulation of health practitioners. His House-passed bills are now before the Senate.

How they voted

How they voted
Here's how local members
voted on immediate effect:
YES — Republicans Penny
Crissman of Rochester, Barbara
Dobb of Union Lake, Jan Dolan
of Farmington Hills, Jamlan,
Shirley Johnson of Royal Oak
and Greg Kaza of Rochester
Hills. NO — Democrats Maxlan
Berman of Southfield.
The bill emerged almost. unscathed after two full days of debate on amendments. The only
successful amendment was a 5037:Republican effort to raise the
cap on pain and suffering awards

JA names hall of fame members

Junior Achievement, the group that gives students a chance to discover the business world, has honored four adults as its first Business Hall of Fame winners.

A committee of 10 business education and service organizations selected this year's honorees from more then 60 nominees. They are: the late Henry Ford, founder of the Ford Motor Co.; the late Mary Chase Stratton, founder of Pewable Tile Co.; A. Alfred Taubman, founder and chairman of the Taubman Co.; and Michael Ilute, chairman of the board of Little Caesars Enterprises.

In 1903 Ford helped organize the Ford Motor Co., capitalized at \$150,000, of which only \$23,000 in cash was paid in. The first car built by the company was sold July 15, 1903. Ford owned 25½ percent of the stock in the new or-ganization and became president and controlling owner in 1916.

Ilitch has built one of the most successful franchise businesses in the restaurant industry. His pizza chain expected to increase sales in 1992 by 25 percent to \$2.16 billion. Blitch also owns the Detroit Red Wings and the Detroit Tigers.

from \$250,000 to \$280,000.

A separate cap of \$500,000 remains in place for more serious

mains in place for more serious cases.

The bill lowers the age at which children may sue for birth-related damages to eight years. Demorate lost several knock-down, drag-out efforts to raise that age to 13. Sponsor Tracy Yokich, D-St. Clair Shores, argued that some medical complications don't show up until a child is older.

Applause, boos

The bill was backed by hospi-tals and medical practitioners,

Yakich's amendment lost, 48 yes to 52 no. Here's how aren members voted:
YES — Democrats Berman, Gubow, Keith and Young, Republicans Vorva and Whyman.
NO — Republicans Bankes, Crissman, Bobb, Dolan, Jamlan, Johnson and Kaza.

whose survey showed 74 percent of graduating orthopedic surgeons and 53 percent of graduating obstatricians were leaving Michigans were leaving Michigans malpractice insurance costs, third highest in the nation. Their arguments convinced some small-town and rural Demorate that malpractice suits had to be curbed to prevent a "braid tool be curbed to prevent a "brai

fessionals and institutions from responsibility for their negligent acts."

Kirk Profit of Ypsilanti: "It is

Kirk Profit of Ypailanti: "It is obvious from the dobate that, some members of the modical community are confused as to whether they want to earn a living as health care providers or insurers... It is unfortunate that the physicians in this state are being, so manipulated by the insurance so manipulated by the insurance interests."











FOOTJOY SOFTJOY MEN'S GOLF SHOES









16⁹⁶

SPALDING HEA YOUTH BASKETBAL









IRONS



HUFFY SPORTS



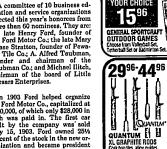














'Under the direction of Stratton who began Pewabic in 1903, the company produced nationally re-nowned vessels, tiles, architectur-al ornamentation and ceramic jewelry. Its work can be seen throughout the U.S.







kne capacity.





STREET

STREET SERIES BASKETBALL Designed for outdoor, official size and



1298 & 1498







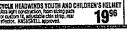












UTICA





We're so sure that our EVERYDAY LOW PRICES are even lower than our competitors' "sale" prices, we'll meet any price on any in-stock item!

65 99 III 60



HEIGHTS

522-2750

M-59 (Hall Road) and M-59 (1415 Mais Road) 791-8400 (313) 254-8650 STORE HOURS MON.-FRI. 10 AM-9 PM SAT. 9 AM-9 PM SUN: 10 AM-6 PM

