Kaza targets political perks

When legislators have serious qualms about a bill, the Michi-gan Constitution says they may make a formal protest and have it inserted in the permanent,

official journal.

Rep. Greg Kaza, R-Rochester
Hills, did more than protest the
Jobs Commission and regulatory
budget bills. He produced a manficeto warning his party that it
lest centrol of the House in 1996,
and would continue to be a
minority party, because it turned
its back on independent votors
and graes-roots thinking, especially in metro Detroit "swing"
districts.

"The Domocrats stole our
agenda" and "The Democrats
won through voto fraud," Kaza official journal. Rep. Greg Kaza, R-Rochester

won through vote fraud," Kaza



quotes his party's leaders as say

quotes his party's lenders as saying.

These are excuses that ignore the fundamental reasons," he said. In an interview, Kaza added that leaders fail to grasp what he's talking about.

The corporate welfare (Jobs Commission) budget illustrates the conflict with the Republican grass roots. The general government budget reflects the refusal to acknowledge the independent bloc, "Kaza said.

Some of his collengues had more conventional reasons for voting against the bills.

"Government pork!" said Rep. Mike Goschka, R-Brant.
"It is irresponsibly \$38 million above any average projected increase. We need to cut our tax birden as well as fix our reads," said Rep. Androw Raczkowski, R-Farmington Hills.

"I offered an amendment which would have required the state treasury to divest its holdings in the Walt Disney Corpand its subsidiaries," said Rep. Alvin Kukuk, R-Macomb. "This Disney Corp. is producing a large amount of entertainment which I believe is offensive..."

Kaza, 37, is a Jesuit-educated economist and former newspaper reporter serving his third and last term in the House due to term limits.

Politically, he is a libertarian who frowns on much governmental spending and interference in human rights. He swings away from hard-core conservatives on questions of citizens' access to government.

"Michigan's GOP has seen other reform revolts — Gov. Fred

from hard-core conservatives on questions of citizens' access to government.

Michigan's GOP has seen other reform revolts—Gov. Fred Warner and the Teddy Roosevelt faction in the early 1900s, the Eisenhower takeover of 1952. the Traversa City Fact rebellin led by state Sen. (later Gov.) William G. Milliken in the early 1960s.

Kaza's rovolt is different. It's not moderates versus conservatives. In one bloc, he sees moderates and most conservatives. In one bloc, he sees mitting on the need to attract independent, middle-of-the-road voltars. In the other bloc, he sees "hard-liners who defend corporate welfare by engaging in personal attacks" on anyone who dares to disagree with them.

Does Kaza have a plan for personal political advancement in mind in 1988; No, he said. Should be should teach. He could go to medical school. He could go for medical school. He could go for medical school. He could go for medical school. He could go to medical school he seem an agenda to fight the obscene perks and privileges of the political class in Lansing and Washington."

"Support for term limits."
Many in Lansing think there will be a lawsuit to everturn the state constitutional amendment approved by voters in 1992.

"Support for popular votes on pay raises. . ."

■ "Opposition to pension dou-ble-dipping by career politicians.

■ "Support for full disclosure of lobbying activities. . ."

"Support for an expanded reedom of Information Act so that people have more informa-tion about the activities of their government."

Surport for an expanded Open Meetings Act so that the secret back-room deals cut by politicians in closed party caucuses are exposed to the news media and public."

Kaza sees Democrats wising up to the need to speak to inde-pendents as well as big labor. Republicans, he said, should have been supporting Democrat Sharon Giro's financial disclo-

auro bill and Democrat Tracey Yokich's bill to prevent a "revolv-ing door" between the Legisla-ture and the lobby.

Kaza last year got House sup-port for his bill to allow voters to east ballots for "None of the Above" (the NOTA bill). But the Senate let it die.

He calls it a missed opportuni-ty, one of too many opportunities the GOP has missed.

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Catholic Social Services of Oakland County is looking for caring volunteers to assist with the Parent-Child Home Program.

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