

3 Local Reps Back Transit Bill

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LANSING Disappointed at the House's rejection of the transportation package bill, State Sen. Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth) said legislative leaders would try again to pass it this week.

The House last week gave 50 votes for and 54 against Gov. Milliken's proposed two-cent increase in the state gasoline tax and the related plan to use part of it for rapid transit.

Observant representatives split three in favor and four against it, with one absentee.

IN FAVOR were Reps. Marvin Stimpert (D-Livonia) and Joseph Forbes (D-Oak Park), both of whom have voted consistently for urban-oriented and regional programs, along with James Delebaugh (R-Birmingham).

Opposed were Reps. John Brown (D-Redford), Thomas Brown (D-Westland), James Tierney (D-Garden City) and

Richard Young (D-Dearborn Heights).

Rep. Raymond Baker (R-Farmington) was missing due to minor surgery.

In the party breakdown: Democrats supported it 30-24; Republicans produced 19 in favor and 30 against; and each party had three absent.

PURSELL HAD been chief sponsor of the transportation package in the Senate and had chaired leadership efforts to draw up a compromise plan to suit banking House members.

"I'm hopeful we can get another vote this week," said Pursell. Fifty-six votes were needed for passage.

"Tension was very high. Some out-staters were afraid to be because under re-districting they will be running against incumbents, and they don't want this used against them."

McDonald Attacks Immigration Chief

WASHINGTON Congressman Jack McDonald (R-Farmington), has called for the resignation of Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner Raymond Farrell and urged investigation into the agency's affairs.

McDonald said he has been conducting a private investigation for several months into the impact of illegal aliens upon the country's economy and society. The 18th District Congressman said: "I have come to the conclusion that Commissioner Farrell has seriously crippled the effectiveness of the Immigration Service."

McDONALD blasted Farrell's performance in letters to President Richard Nixon and to U.S. Rep. Chet Holifield (D-Calif.), who chairs the House Government Operations Committee.

The INS has been faced with steadily increasing chores in handling of non-immigrant visitors, protecting borders against illegal entry, curbing smuggling of aliens and carrying on surveillance of those illegally here, McDonald said.

He accused Farrell of letting his organization "rusticate" and blamed him for the presence of two million illegal aliens who have "had a major effect on our economy."

Citizens and legal immigrants are denied as a result of the illegal aliens holding jobs in this country, he said, and estimates are that the aliens send between \$1 and \$2 billion out of this country annually. Fraudulent dependency claims made by the aliens, cheats the country of \$1 billion in tax revenues, he added.

He also questioned an alleged improper use of Immigration Service funds for entertaining high officials.

In recent weeks, opposition had come from a number of Detroit black legislators, but last week such leading blacks as James Bradley, James Del Rio and Daisy Elliott were solidly for it.

Pursell expressed disappointment at two negative votes - Michael Dively (R-Traverse City) and James Tierney (D-Garden City).

"Jim Tierney surprised me because he had been seen the Toronto system; he's been for it and even issued statements supporting it," said Pursell.

"TIERNEY SAID he voted against it because of all the 'wheeling and dealing' on this bill and because of the high tax rate already imposed on gasoline."

"For one thing, there were so many deals, so much pork barreling - everyone wanted

Impounding Of Funds Attacked

WASHINGTON U.S. Rep. William D. Ford (D-Taylor) has co-sponsored legislation designed to prevent the president from "impounding" funds allocated by Congress.

Ford charged that President Nixon has deliberately delayed the spending of up to \$11 billion which was appropriated by Congress over the past two years for projects such as water line and sewer construction, urban renewal, low cost housing and mass transit.

"I suppose that we can expect to see this money released over the next nine months to help bolster the economy in time for the next November's election," Ford predicted. "That may be a fine political game, but it is an appalling example of disregard for the nation's millions of unemployed."

The proposed legislation would bar the president from withholding appropriated funds from one year to the next. It would require the president to notify Congress whenever appropriated money is impounded and Congress would have 60 days to approve the action.

Young Will Testify In Washington

Rep. Richard Young (D-Dearborn Heights) will appear before the Judiciary Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives on March 1 to testify on facts relating to the bussing of school children across school district lines.

Young, who opposes such a method of achieving integrated schools, said he would also visit Richmond, Va. and discuss with Virginia House member T. Dix Sutton, a resolution introduced in the Virginia Legislature.

It would call for a constitutional convention for the purpose of amending the U.S. Constitution to prohibit the assignment of children to schools based on their race, religion or national creed.

Young said he doubts that there is a chance of the U.S. Congress passing such an amendment to the Constitution but thinks that the opportunity is greater for three-fourths of the State Legislatures to take such action.

The Michigan Legislature has passed such a resolution and is encouraging other State Legislatures to pass similar ones.

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something in it for their district," Tierney said. "It sickened me. I was plenty disgusted with all of the deals made to help get guys reelected. Some of them were even calling their amendments 'reelection' amendments."

Tierney also dislikes the high rate on gasoline, amounting to one-third to one-half the cost per gallon, he said. He argued that if the gas tax is to be hiked, the tax on diesel fuel should also be boosted.

"Gasoline is not a luxury

item; it's essential for both the rich, poor and medium income families," Tierney said. "Yet it is taxed at over one-third the cost per gallon in my community. If this were a luxury, I could see it."

Though the bill would not have specified a mass transit corridor, Tierney expressed opposition to the two main plans under consideration.

The Woodward corridor would be too expensive, he said. He argued that if the gas tax is to be hiked, the tax on diesel fuel should also be boosted.

"Gasoline is not a luxury

"HOW MANY people who say they want mass transit would actually get down there and use it?" he asked.

One alternative would be to utilize the railroad lines not frequently used leading into Detroit for a transit system, including the one going through Plymouth and Livonia, Tierney suggested.

Pushers for the mass transit package won't get Tierney to change his mind as long as the amendments remain in ward or downriver systems would get enough use to make it worth the expense.

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