State Home, Hospital Await Budgets

By TIM RICHARD
Sunday Editor

Officials of two state mental health institutions here were still waiting for their proposed budget figures late last week after Gov. Romney on Wednesday proposed a total general fund budget of $1,334 billion.

Both the Mental Health Department and the Bureau of the Budget were unable late in the week to tell what would be recommended for Northville State Hospital and Plymouth State Home and Training School.

Northville State Hospital had requested $9.5 million for the fiscal year that begins next July 1. Its current appropriation is $7.3 million.

Plymouth State Home requested nearly $8.3 million compared to its current appropriation of $6.7 million.

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ROMNEY'S BUDGET message proposed general fund spending of $1,334 billion, a 16.4 per cent increase over the current year.

Expenditures would be $27.2 million less than revenues of $1,361.3 million.

For schools, Romney proposed that the state aid formula be raised for financial class A schools from the current $294.50 to $315 and for B schools from the current $427 to $457.

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ROMNEY ASKED $200,000 in planning funds for the proposed Wayne County Community College. He asked another $400,000 increase in community college vocational funds.

Altogether, education would receive more than half the general fund appropriations (see chart).

The University of Michigan would get $64.7 million compared to its current $59.1 million. The U. of M. had asked for $75.5 million.

Michigan State University would get $62.3 million compared to its current $56.7 million. MSU had asked for $70 million.

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ONE OF THE biggest increases, in percentage terms, would go to the state Civil Rights Commission. Romney proposes to double its budget from the current $1.39 million to $2.77 million.

The state police would get a total of $29.4 million, up 23 per cent from its current level. The department had asked for $40.1 million.

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ROMNEY ASKED the Legislature to put two bond issues on the November ballot.

One bond issue of $335 million would be for water purification, most notably to keep Lake Michigan from becoming a "dead lake," in Romney's words.

The other, of $100 million, would go for state park land acquisitions, recreation and fish planting.

Cost of the combined issues would be $24.4 million a year, the governor said.

A unique part of the recreation proposal would be $30 million for local governments for pools, athletic fields and parks.

Budget At A Glance

SOURCE	$ MILLIONS	PCT.
Sales, Use Tax	343.7	25.3
Net Personal Income Tax	272.7	20.0
Corporate Income Tax	230.0	16.9
Corporate Franchise Tax	106.7	7.8
Other Taxes	273.7	20.1
Other Revenues	110.3	8.1
Beginning Balance	24.2	1.8
TOTAL	1,361.3	100.0

SPENDING	$ MILLIONS	PCT.
Education	705.7	52.9
Social Services	219.8	16.5
Mental Health	157.8	11.8
Property Tax Exemptions	30.6	2.3
Adult Corrections	26.7	2.0
Safety, Defense	32.4	2.4
Natural Resources	22.4	1.7
All other	138.7	10.4
TOTAL	1,334.1	100.00

Dems' Dinner In Night Club

A different kind of annual dinner is being planned by the 19th Congressional District Democratic organization.

For the occasion Sunday, Feb. 4, the Democratic group has taken over the 24-Karat night club on Telegraph Rd., near Six Mile, in Redford Township.

The Democrats have also made arrangements for the club's regular floor show, dance orchestra and prime rib dinner. The floor show will be emceed by Paul Lennon and the Lennie Shick orchestra will supply the music.

Chairman of the affair is Chuck Deamud of Redford, who is also secretary of the Congressional District organization. Serving on the dinner committee are Mrs. George Whitton and Sid Diamond of Livonia; Aldo Vagnozzi of Farmington; Joseph St. Aubin of Union Lake and Jerry Raymond of Livonia.

Vagnozzi is chairman of the district organization and Raymond is chairman of the Wayne-19th section and a vice chairman of the district-wide group.

The dinner is the major fund-raising activity for the district organization. "Our ability to put on an effective campaign to return Democratic representation to the 19th district will be enhanced by a successful dinner," Vagnozzi and Raymond said.

Deamud said another feature of the dinner will be a shortened speech program. Brief speeches will be made by Secretary of State James Hare, Attorney Gen. Frank Kelley, and Deputy National Chairman Billie S. Farnum, who was 19th District Congressman during 1965 and 1966.

Tickets, priced at $15 single and $25 for a couple, can be purchased by calling Deamud at 533-1166. The doors will open for dancing and a Dutch treat cocktail hour at 4 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. followed by the speaking program and floor show.

Sen. Kuhn Offers 2 Anti-Riot Bills

State Sen. George W. Kuhn, (R-West Bloomfield) has introduced two bills, which he said, are designed to help law enforcement officers in their fight against crime, especially of a riotous nature.

One of the bills would tighten the present law governing explosive devices, commonly known as "Molotov cocktails," by making possession of such a device prima facie evidence of the possessor's intent to use the device unlawfully against a person or property.

At present, law enforcement officials have difficulty getting convictions unless they actually see the explosive being used, said Sen. Kuhn.

"Criminal intent is the only reason a person would have such a device in his possession, and I feel we should strengthen this law to prevent destruction," said Kuhn.

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THE SECOND bill would provide a mayor or other top municipal officer with emergency powers in cases of riots.

"Under this bill, such a civic official would be given immediate emergency powers to ban possession of firearms, ammunition, alcohol and gasoline--items frequently used in riots," said Kuhn.

"By giving a civic official such emergency power, it would permit him to get anti-riot control measures into high gear quickly and give the governor time to call the National Guard or state police into action if the situation further warranted.

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"I HAVE introduced these measures as part of an overall anti-crime package as a result of Gov. Romney's State of the State message in which he called for stronger laws with which to combat riots and similar emergency conditions.

"These bills have the support of the governor and bi-partisan backing in the Legislature.

"With constant threats being made by militant groups that they intend to 'burn' next summer, we must lose no time in providing law enforcement officials with effective tools to do their job."

Kuhn's district includes Farmington, Livonia and Plymouth.

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