

## Michigan ROUNDUP

May 21, 1992

### *Legislative Week in Review*

- Legislative efforts to reform Michigan's **auto insurance law** keep stalling. Last week, after the Senate failed to muster sufficient votes to override the gubernatorial veto of SB 691, the House passed SB 692, with the same major provisions as its vetoed predecessor: a 15 percent rate rollback and a one-year freeze on premiums. This week in the Senate, a substitute was passed with a sprinkling of bipartisan support, 23-15. The upper chamber's plan cuts rates and freezes premiums but also lowers mandated personal injury coverage to \$250,000. The Senate bill also eliminates the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association, which currently covers personal injury costs exceeding \$250,000. House Speaker Lewis Dodak (D-Taymouth Township) has derided these provisions, saying the House version of insurance reform is superior; thus the bill's future in the lower chamber is uncertain.
- Coincidental with the opening of the golf season, a conference committee considering an **athletic club discrimination ban** issued a unanimous report on SB 351, which bars discrimination at country clubs, yacht clubs, sports clubs, and dining clubs. The measure was originally introduced to eliminate restricted "ladies' tee times" at golf courses and proposed yanking the liquor licenses of country clubs that discriminated against women in this way. As reported by House and Senate conferees, the latest version of the bill would deal with infractions as civil rights issues rather than liquor license violations.
- The Senate passed **1992-93 budgets** for two state departments this week. In passing the *Department of Transportation* spending plan (HB 5517), lawmakers removed new spending items inserted by the House and instead substituted \$78 million in funding for Governor Engler's "Build Michigan" program that had been removed by the House. The \$2.4 billion spending plan contains no general funds. In the *Department of Agriculture* budget (HB 5527), Senate adjustments in funding levels included eliminating the Pontiac Silverdome subsidy approved by the House. The budgets now proceed to conference committee. Meanwhile, the Senate Appropriations Committee completed its deliberations on all remaining House-originated budget bills, paving the way for their consideration in the full Senate next week.
- Two bills guaranteeing **ethnic representation** were passed this week by the Senate. SBs 572 and 549 would create an African-American Affairs Commission and an Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission, with offices within the departments of Civil Rights and Management and Budget.
- The latest word on **legislative schedules** has the House meeting through at least July 2. The Senate is still holding to its planned adjournment on June 12, but members have been advised that the chamber may meet periodically throughout the summer if a budget agreement for FY 1993 is not reached.

### *Political News*

- Veteran Democrat Sal Rocca's **party switch**, whereby the Sterling Heights incumbent will run this fall as a Republican, has not passed unobserved in his caucus. Following his surprise decision, which left Democrats without a candidate in the 30th District, Rocca was stripped of his House committee assignments, lost his legislative aide, and had his office moved from the all-Democratic ninth floor to the all-Republican seventh floor of the Olds Plaza Building.
- Acknowledging that it would be premature to announce a **1993 gubernatorial challenge** to incumbent John Engler, retiring Congressman Howard Wolpe told the *Lansing State Journal* this week that he will "explore the possibility" of such a run. Wolpe added that he was encouraged by early reaction to the proposal.
- A three-judge federal panel will consider a **reapportionment lawsuit** filed this week by the NAACP and the American Civil Liberties Union. The suit claims that new boundary lines used to redistrict the Michigan legislature—specifically the Eight Mile Road dividing line between Wayne and Oakland counties—do not allow residents to be mixed in ways that would preserve majority-minority populations, and alleges that the resulting plan illegally dilutes the voting strength of African-Americans in metropolitan Detroit.
- State Rep. Lynn Jondahl (D-Okemos) was tagged "**best lawmaker**" in the annual *Detroit News* survey released Sunday. The nonscientific sample of 275 responses from legislators, lobbyists, staff members, and political insiders ranked state solons in a number of categories, including "Rookie of the Year"—Sen. James Berryman (D-Adrian)—and "Best Deal Makers"—Senate Majority Leader Dick Posthumus (R-Alto) and House Speaker Lewis Dodak.

**FY 1992-93 BUDGET STATUS SUMMARY  
GENERAL FUND/GENERAL PURPOSE**

DEPARTMENT	FY 1991-92 REVISED Y-T-D	FY 1992-93 GOVERNOR'S RECOMMEND	FY 1992-93 SENATE SUB. COM.	FY 1992-93 SENATE FULL COM.	FY 1992-93 SENATE PASSED	FY 1992-93 HOUSE SUB. COM.	FY 1992-93 HOUSE FULL COM.	FY 1992-93 HOUSE PASSED
Social Services	2,140,180,300	2,235,545,600	2,235,545,600	2,235,545,600	0	2,235,545,600	2,235,546,600	2,240,845,000
Mental Health	910,614,700	959,013,900	959,013,900	959,013,900	959,013,900	959,013,900	959,014,900	959,014,900
Public Health	135,415,400	146,023,200	146,173,200	146,173,200	146,173,200	146,023,200	146,024,200	146,024,200
Corrections	866,564,600	937,073,100	937,073,100	937,073,100	937,073,100	942,650,600	942,650,600	942,324,500
<b>TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES</b>	<b>4,052,795,000</b>	<b>4,277,655,800</b>	<b>4,277,605,800</b>	<b>4,277,605,800</b>	<b>2,042,260,200</b>	<b>4,283,233,300</b>	<b>4,283,236,300</b>	<b>4,288,208,600</b>
Education	40,706,200	38,927,200	41,181,100	41,181,100	41,181,100	40,026,200	40,028,200	40,028,200
School Aid	706,891,500	1,032,641,200	1,031,406,200	1,031,406,200	1,047,315,200	0	0	0
Community Colleges	241,100,000	238,000,000	246,729,300	246,729,300	246,729,300	246,891,700	246,891,700	246,891,700
Higher Education	1,295,664,562	1,303,604,936	1,303,604,936	1,303,604,936	1,303,604,936	1,303,604,936	1,303,604,936	1,303,605,936
Retirement-Public School Employees	3,955,300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL EDUCATION</b>	<b>2,288,317,562</b>	<b>2,613,173,336</b>	<b>2,622,921,536</b>	<b>2,622,921,536</b>	<b>2,638,830,536</b>	<b>1,590,522,836</b>	<b>1,590,524,836</b>	<b>1,590,525,836</b>
Executive	4,295,800	4,330,000	4,330,000	4,330,000	0	4,330,000	4,330,000	4,330,000
Legislative	88,944,100	89,740,100	90,301,100	90,401,100	0	93,026,100	93,026,100	93,026,100
Library of Michigan	27,141,200	27,415,300	27,487,400	27,487,400	0	27,865,300	27,865,300	27,865,300
Judicial	114,243,500	114,681,600	114,280,700	114,280,700	0	121,720,900	121,720,900	121,720,900
Attorney General	23,984,300	23,984,300	24,232,600	24,232,600	0	24,979,300	24,979,300	24,979,300
State	19,169,500	15,061,000	15,229,000	15,229,000	0	15,149,000	15,149,000	15,149,000
Management & Budget (Operations)	49,721,200	47,907,200	48,970,700	48,970,700	0	47,656,000	47,656,000	47,656,000
Treasury (Revenue Sharing)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Treasury (Operations)	51,180,200	60,404,900	59,402,700	59,402,700	0	50,482,000	50,482,000	60,419,800
Treasury (Debt Service)	24,602,600	37,610,000	37,610,000	37,610,000	0	36,110,000	36,110,000	36,110,000
Civil Service	11,844,900	12,340,000	12,040,000	12,040,000	0	12,040,000	12,040,000	12,040,000
Civil Rights	11,018,500	11,121,500	10,711,700	10,711,700	0	11,221,500	11,221,500	11,221,500
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>426,145,800</b>	<b>444,595,900</b>	<b>444,595,900</b>	<b>444,695,900</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>444,580,100</b>	<b>444,580,100</b>	<b>454,517,900</b>
Commerce	56,985,700	62,062,900	62,117,900	62,117,900	0	61,251,500	61,251,500	59,585,045
Labor	30,028,700	32,315,700	32,315,700	32,315,700	0	32,315,700	32,616,700	32,616,700
<b>TOTAL REGULATORY</b>	<b>87,014,400</b>	<b>94,378,600</b>	<b>94,433,600</b>	<b>94,433,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>93,567,200</b>	<b>93,868,200</b>	<b>92,201,745</b>
State Police	191,695,600	203,139,500	203,607,400	203,607,400	0	205,363,600	205,363,600	205,859,700
Military Affairs	26,485,100	27,768,400	28,788,400	28,788,400	0	28,512,200	28,539,200	28,539,200
<b>TOTAL SAFETY &amp; DEFENSE</b>	<b>218,180,700</b>	<b>230,907,900</b>	<b>232,395,800</b>	<b>232,395,800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>233,875,800</b>	<b>233,902,800</b>	<b>234,398,900</b>
Agriculture	26,341,700	26,953,800	27,153,100	27,153,100	27,153,100	26,945,000	26,945,000	26,945,000
Natural Resources (Operations)	94,433,000	93,069,800	100,940,100	100,940,100	0	93,069,800	93,069,800	104,714,600
Natural Resources (Bond Implementation)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Natural Resources (Trust Fund)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transportation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay	186,432,000	147,434,100	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL ALL OTHERS</b>	<b>307,206,700</b>	<b>267,457,700</b>	<b>128,093,200</b>	<b>128,093,200</b>	<b>27,153,100</b>	<b>120,014,600</b>	<b>120,014,600</b>	<b>131,659,600</b>
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>7,379,660,162</b>	<b>7,928,169,236</b>	<b>7,800,245,836</b>	<b>7,800,345,836</b>	<b>4,708,243,836</b>	<b>6,765,794,036</b>	<b>6,766,127,036</b>	<b>6,791,512,581</b>

source: Senate Fiscal Agency

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