Thompson to legislators: Pass ERA'

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (UPI) — Gov. James R. Thompson, who made a last-minute stab last year to get the Equal Rights Amendment passed in the Illinois Legislature, says lawmakers should pass the ERA without delay.

"We've debated this issue a lot, but the time for debate is over," Thompson said in his State of the State address passed out to legislators Wednesday.

"Let's do the right thing and pass the Equal Rights Amendment without delay."

ERA supporters at the Capitol to kick off a statewide public education campaign vowed to make Thompson stick to his pledge of support for the controversial amendment.

"The governor had some nice words in his speech which we intend to hold him to," said Naomi Ross, Illinois president of the National Organization for Women. NOW is focusing money and boycott efforts on Illinois in its drive to win the three states needed for the ERA to become part of the U.S. Constitution.

Thompson has been criticized by his probable. Democratic opponent for governor, Comptroller Michael Bakalis, for not doing enough to get legislators to ratify the ERA.

Bakalis has said he will actively work for the passage of the resolution, including calling legislators. Thompson has taken less of an active role and did not ask lawmakers to pass the ERA last spring until one day before it was to be called for a vote.

A resolution to ratify the amendment is presently on the calendar in the Illinois House. The main sponsor of the measure, Rep. Alan Greiman, D-Skokie, called it once last spring but did not have the 107 votes necessary for approval.

ERA proponents will be working with both Bakalis and Thompson, Ms. Ross told the 35 supporters at the rally. "If neither one of them can get it passed then we have serious leadership problems in Illinois," she said.

Getting more pro-ERA votes is the goal of NOW's "On the road to equality" caravan which will have three vans carrying ERA information across the state by next month. NOW national officer, Arlie Scott, said similar caravans are in eight other states.

Legislators' ERA voting records are included in the vans' information packets.

Ms. Ross said NOW hopes to sway lawmakers by stopping in their districts and talking to their constitutents.

When they finally got around to reading Thompson's State of the State message, legislative leaders of both parties generally agreed he identified major state problems.

But, predictably, they disagreed on the

The governor, forced to forego the usual personal appearance before the General

Assembly due to a bad back, issued copies of the speech to lawmakers Wednesday. Few bothered to even peruse the 20-page document and leaders, dickering with details of a State Board of Elections bill, put it off for hours.

Both Senate President Thomas Hynes, D-Chicago, and Republican leaders George Ryan of Kankakee and David Shapiro of Amboy said the governor can rightly claim credit for fostering better relations between the Legislature and the

governor.

But House Majority Leader Michael Madigan of Chicago and House Speaker William Redmond of Bensenville, both Democrats, said Thompson's first year was one of compromise only because everybody was weary of consant battle during former Democratic Gov. Daniel Walker's regime.

They indicated majority Democrats will not let Thompson off so lightly in 1978 as he runs for re-election.

Elections board measure passed

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (UPI) — The General Assembly, under an Illinois Supreme Court gun, has sent Gov. James R. Thompson a cure for the ailing State Board of Elections.

The measure, a compromise pounded out by Thompson and Democratic leaders last week, passed both houses Wednesday, two days before the court's Jan. 13 deadline for creation of a new board.

The lawmakers then left town to campaign for the March 21 primary with plans to return just one day, March 1, to hear Thompson's budget proposals.

The governor is expected to sign the elections board bill (H2271) but Thompson press secretary David Gilbert said he did not know when.

The measure sailed through the Senate, 51-4, and was accepted by the House, 142-14. However, the House insisted the Senate then drop an unrelated amendment and the upper chamber promptly agreed, 55-0.

Most lawmakers said the bill, was sound but Rep. Philip Collins, R-Calumet City, said Republicans "gave the store away" in negotiations.

"Maybe we should change party symbols," the Republican told Democrats, "because we certainly have bigger and more jackasses than you." Sen. John Knuppel, D-Virginia, said the bill was a "joke."

Knuppel said the measure, which allows the governor to appoint all four board members from his own party and four from a list supplied by the opposite party's highest ranking officer, compromises the governor's appointing power.

But Senate President Thomas Hynes, D-Chicago, and Sen. John Graham, R-Barrington, said the measure is the best possible one. "This is one time that the art of compromise really worked," Graham said.

The bill is aimed at settling a con-

troversy brewing since the adoption of the 1970 state constitution which required the Legislature to establish a board to oversee elections. The high court ruled the current board unconstitutional and gave the Legislature six deadlines to come up with a new one.

The court Nov. 30 set the latest deadline but hinted it might be the last stay of execution.

Under H2271, the opposite party's ranking officer would provide the governor a list of three names for each vacancy. The governor would have the right to request more nominees if not satisfied with the first list.

If all elected state officials were from the same party, the governor would make all appointments. In that case, the appointments would require a two-thirds Senate vote for confirmation instead of the usual three-fifths vote.

No member could hold a political or public office. Membership would be evenly split between Cook County and the rest of the state. The fouryear terms would be staggered.

The bill takes effect when Thompson signs it but the current board would continue until the new panel takes over July 1.

Membership for the current fourmember board, set up by lawmakers after a long, bitter debate, was appointed by the governor from a list submitted by each party's legislative leaders. The bill, enacted over former Gov. Daniel Walker's amendatory veto, also required the board to draw lots to break tie votes.

The court ruled the tie-breaker provision was blatantly unconstitutional and said only executive officials could have appointment powers and that legislative imput violated that constitutional precept.

The bill contains no provision for breaking ties. Thompson said partisan flaps will be resolved with "reason."



Some 35 Equal Rights Amendment backers gathered at State Capitol

Real Estate

State weighs new conversion curbs

By Mitchell Locin

ON JAN, 1, new Illinois and Chicago regulations -- hailed by many as bringing some order and consumer protection to the growing trend of converting apartments to condominiums - went into effect.

Why, then, is a panel of the state legislature actively considering more laws to regulate the conversion process?

According to State Rep. Alan Greiman (D., Skokie): "These reforms did not deal specifically with the problems of condominum conversion."

Greiman is chairman of the subcommittee on real estate for the House Judiciary Committee

ONE OF THE most far-reaching ideas heard by the subcommittee - and one that insiders say the real-estate lobby will not allow to become law - would require a developer to obtain the consent of 35 per cent of the building's renters to buy their apartments before a conversion can be carried out.

If the developer failed to sign 35 per cent of the tenants within a year, the property would remain rental and the developer could not attempt a conversion again for 18 months.

"The effect of condominium conversion is devastating, especially for senior citizens who have no desire to own their own unit or are forced out because they can-



Rep. Alan J. Greiman

not afford to buy," State Rep. Ellis B. Levin (D., Chicago), the bill's cosponsor, said.

He said the conversions are artifically increasing rents and that "thousands along the lakefront in my district have been victimized."

STATE SEN. John Merlo (D., Chicago). one of the driving forces behind the 19



Rep. John Merlo

new state laws on condominiums enacted last year, also argued for more controls.

"I venture to say that 80 per cent of the people who purchase condominiums had their backs up against the wall," he said.

But Ald. Bernard Stone (50th) told a recent subcommittee meeting that landlords prevented from converting apartments would be forced to "milk the buildings - let them deteriorate and let all our neighborhoods be ruined - or charge. exorbitant rents."

He said the "tail's wagging the dog" if renters control whether an owner may sell a building.

"You can't stop a man who has worked his whole life to earn the money to buy a building (and say) he can't do what he wants with it," Stone said.

ANOTHER PROPOSAL put forth during the hearings by Merlo and Rep. William A. Marovitz (D., Chicago) would limit the number of units an investor can buy in a single building to two.

Merlo said it "defeats the concept of condo living" when individuals buy apartments they don't intend to occupy. They and their renters are not as interested in maintenance of the unit or the building.

Greiman joined as cosponsor of both proposals, he said, to get them rolling. Now he has come to some conclusions about what should be contained in a new package of condominium laws.

He said he does not favor the idea, as does Levin, that 66 per cent of a building's tenants could block its conversion. He said "there would not be the rash of conversions if you could make money as an apartment-building owner.

"I don't believe it should be the tenants who make the bottom-line decision," he said. "I think they should be able to delay it and get their lives in order."

ERA backers look to Illinois for needed boost

By BILL DENSMORE

SPRINGFIELD. Ill. (P)—Like the sand in the hourglass held aloft by feminists rallying in the Illinois Capitol rotunda, the proposed Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is running out of time.

There is less than a year to go until the March 22 ratification deadline. So, supporters of ERA have zeroed in on Illinois with money, lobbyists and volunteers to try to win the only major northern holdout state. They are heeding signs that the proposed constitutional amendment to ban sex discrimination is foundering.

A victory is needed in Illinois, they say, to break the pattern of weakening support for the ERA. Thirty-eight states are needed for ratification. Thirty-five have ratified it so far, but 30 of those were rapid-fire votes

during the first year, a time of enthusiasm before opponents organized.

"I CAN'T SAY strongly enough how important Illinois is," said Ruth Clusen, national president of the League of Women Voters. "If Illinois does not come through, we are totally dependent on three states in the south and southwest."

But the task here is formidable. Since 1972, the first year the ERA was up for approval, it has failed in every session to win a required three-fifths majority of both houses of the Illinois General Assembly.

The last House vote was June 27, and the amendment lost 101 to 74. The last Senate vote was Dec. 16, 1976, and this time ERA lost 29 to 22, despite a telephone call from the president-elect, Jimmy Carter

Rep. Alan Greiman, D-Skokie, is expected to call for another House vote on the amendment in the coming weeks.

Campaigning in Illinois has proven difficult because of a block of conservative, rural Republicans and Chicago-based Democrats who oppose it.

ERA strategists believe the final outcome hinges on GOP votes-which they say are controlled by Gov. James Thompson-and on the votes of the Chicago Democrats, whom they say need a green light from George Dunne, Cook County party chairman.

ILLINOIS ALSO is the home state of arch ERA foe and conservative columnist Phyllis Schlafly.

hlafly was on hand yesterday when pro-

ERA forces kicked off their effort at the Capitol by presenting legislative leaders with the hourglass.

THE MINNEAPOLIS STAR

The major organizations in the drive are the League of Women Voters, the National Womens' Political Caucus, the National Organization for Women and ERA-Illinois.

The league has used garage sales, bake sales and buffet dinners to raise money to hire two veteran lobbyists and a Chicagobased public relations firm for the drive.

Because of its nonpartisan tradition, the league does not back individual candidates. The other groups are filling the gap with volunteers, working for as many as 20 General Assembly candidates who won primary races on pro-ERA platforms. They hope the pressure will translate into pro votes by defiant anti-ERA incumbents.

Expect close House ERA vote today

SPRINGFIELD. III. (UPI) - Months of intense jockeving on the volatile Equal Rights Amendment was expected to come to a head today in an Illinois House vote on the issue.

Barbara O'Connor of ERA Illinois said Tuesday

night backers decided at a hotel meeting to seek a showdown sometime after the House returns at noon.

"At this point it's all go," Ms. O'Connor said. "I understand we have 107 votes. We are sending telegrams to our people throughout the state."

Rep. Alan Greiman, a Skokie Democrat and chief House ERA sponsor, hinted broadly the vote would be today and referred inquiries to Ms. O'Connor.

"If they (lobbyists and ERA advocates at the meeting) say it's on, it is, " Greiman said. Neither he nor Ms. O'Connor would say exactly who attended.

ERA was last called officially in June 1977 when it received 101 of the 107 (three-fifths) votes required. Since then there

have been repeated rumors another vote was imminent, including a false alarm last fall when Grieman promised a vote but backed off at the last moment.

So far, 35 of the 38 states needed ERA for

ratification have endorsed it and Illinois, the only northern state to withhold approval, is considered key in efforts to get three more states by the March 1979 deadline

Meanwhile, an attempt to extend the deadline seven years is moving through Congress.

But ERA advocates are not banking on that. In recent days, there has been a flurry of proERA activity. including:

-A call by 11 members of the Illinois congressional delegation for passage. The group wired Gov. James R. Thompson. a Republican, and Chicago Mayor Michael Bilandic, a Democrat, urging them to apply pressure.

-Nearly day-long efforts Tuesday by Thompson to secure ERA votes.

-A strong stand for ERA by GOP secretary of state candidate Sharon Sharp, who said she was "embarrassed" she did not back it earlier.

Bill to halt Nazi march stalled

SPRINGFIELD, III. (UPI) - The sponsor of a bill designed to halt a scheduled march by neo-Nazis in heavily Jewish Skokie later this month said he planned today to try to vank the measure out of committee where it is stalled.

Rep. Alan Greiman, D-Skokie, said he would try to bypass the House Judiciary Committee which Tuesday voted to hold the measure.

The neo-Nazi march is scheduled for Skokie June 25 and permits have been issued by the village to both the neoNazis and a

Jewish group.

The committee heard nearly three hours of testimony from proponents and opponents of the measure (S1811). sponsored by Sen. Howard Carroll, DChicago, and Greiman.

Shortly after the committee voted to hold the bill. Greiman said he would file a motion in the full House Wednesday to take the bill from committee and bring it directly to the floor for a vote.

A motion in committee to pass S1811 to the full

house was defeated resoundingly, getting only four of 20 votes cast. However, on a motion by Rep. Timothy Johnson, R-Urbana, to defeat the bill, an 8-8 tie vote resulted. Four members switched their votes on that tally.

That means sponsors could discharge the bill from committee with a simple majority vote of the House.

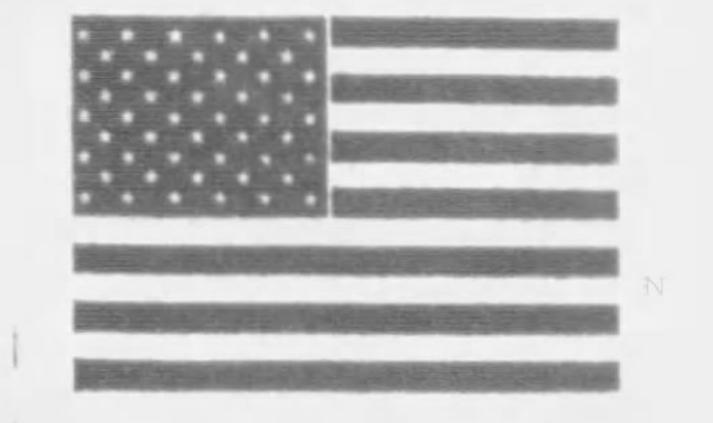
Under S1811, a person could be found guilty of criminal group defamation by displaying in public areas signs, slogans, uniforms or symbols which

portray a racial or community. religious group as deprayed, criminal, unchaste or having a lack of breach of peace or riots.

bill before the first vote in an attempt to narrow circumstances where it would apply. A second bill in the "Nazi package" was defeated, 9-7. Also aimed rights were guaranteed. at the neo-Nazis, it would prohibit parades or demonstrations if the use of certain symbols would arouse "reasonable apprehension" within the death camps.

Various attempts by Skokie through ordinances and requests for court invirtue. It also would apply junctions to stop the to acts which produce scheduled neo-Nazi march have failed. However. Greiman amended the Skokie officials recently allowed the June 25 march when Frank Collin, who heads the National Socialist Party, said he would not march if his

Discussion on the bill ranged from First Amendment "free speech" arguments to emotional pleas from survivors of Nazi



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8 Sections

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HILLIA FIRM INSTED MANUEL

Six votes short of House approval

By Daniel Egler and Mitchell Locin

Chicago Tribune Press Service

SPRINGFIELD-The Equal Rights Amendment was killed by the Illinois House Wednesday after five black Chicago legislators withheld their votes, charging that the blacks were snubbed in ERA negotiations.

On a vote of 101 to 64, the proposed amendment to the United States Constitution fell 6 votes short of the required three-fifths majority.

"We had the 107th vote," said House Majority Leader Michael Madigan D., Chicago | after ERA suporters said they were "astonished" that the blacks, who had consistently favored the amend- ed. ment, refused to vote.

THE SUPPORTERS immediately began strategy sessions to revive ERA in the General Assembly this year. Efforts could be made to reconsider the vote, or an ERA resolution could be introduced in the Senate.

"We have to rethink the whole thing," said Sen. Dawn Clark Netsch, an ERA supporter, although other supporters indicated there is little hope for approval of the amendment this year.

Ratification of the controversial amnois, the only northern industrial state granted. yet to ratify it, would break the logiam. Three more states must ratify the ERA before March 22 next year if it is to object strongly to that," Gaines said. become the 27th amendment to the United States Constitution.

EFFORTS ARE under way in Wash-

A roll call list shows how members of Illinois House voted in rejecting ratification of Equal Rights amendment. Page

Sighs of relief and cries of disappointment are heard in capitol as ERA amendment is defeated in the Illinois House, Sec. 3, page 6.

ington, however, to extend the deadline for another seven years.

The blacks said they do not oppose ERA and will vote for it the next time it comes up. What they objected to, they said, was being ignored in negotiations and having their votes taken for grant-

"Every faction in the legislature was contacted but us," said Rep. Charles Gaines [R., Chicago]. "Since they ignored us, we abstained."

Gaines and Rep. Eugene Barnes [D., Chicagol said that Rep. Ray Ewell, a Chicago Democrat and leader of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus, was not included in any strategy sessions.

"WE WERE NOT involved in the process at all," said Barnes. "The road was chosen for us."

They indicated that they were ignored endment across the country has stalled because Rep. James Taylor, [D., Chicaat a total of 35 states, and proponents gol, added as a chief sponsor of the had hoped that a favorable vote in Illi- ERA resolution, took their votes for

> "We object to someone making a statement that they have our votes. We

Taylor said the other blacks had misinterpreted his remarks at a Capitol

Continued on page 22, col. 1

House rejects ERA by 6 votes

FAILURE OF 5 legislators from Chicago to vote on the Equal Right Amendment assured defeat of the ERA in the Illinois House, where ERA backers had counted on the votes of the 5 to sway at least one uncommitted legislator to make up the 107 votes necessary for passage. The 5 blacks said they were snubbed in ERA negotiations and would vote for it the next time it comes up in the House.



AP Wirephoto

State Rep. Alan Greiman . . . ERA bill sponsor takes the loss hard.

Time Running Out For ERA Ratification

By H.D. QUIGG NEW YORK (UPI) This week - or at least sometime this month they'll try again in Illinois. But nationally, time is running out.

The movement for the Equal Rights Amendment for women is in trouble. The seven-year deadline for ratification is next March 22.

Observers in Washington said privately the staffs of the big pro-ERA groups are conceding that now the fight is virtually hopeless, and has been for about a year. "Time, you old Gypsy

man, will you not stay? a poet once asked.

The proponents of ERA are pragmatists, not poets. Their aim - their demand - now is for a seven-year extension of the time for three-fourths of the states to ratify.

Last Wednesday, the Illinois House of Representatives rejected the amendment six votes short. Illinois, the only northern industrial state that has not ratified ERA, is a key to making it the 27th amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Three more states are needed

"How happy I am!" said Phyllis Schlafly, the Alton, Ill., columnist and housewife who with her Stop ERA organization is the acknowledged prime mover against the amendment. "I think the ERA is going to die on March 22, 1979. Women don't want it. It's a big fraud."

Did she expect the nay vote in Illinois?

"Yes, but I'm the only one. The mood is growing very strongly against trying to have the govrnment control all of our problems

Yes, the Illinois vote vas a surprise (it was caused by a leadership flap among blacks in the legislature). The resolution's sponsors were stunned. And yes, there is a growing national conservative mood. Observers point to the landslide passage of California's tax Proposition 13 as part of the

trend stalling ERA.
"A handful of powerful eactionary forces are blocking the ERA," feminist Betty Friedan said Friday night on her arrival in her native Peoria, Ill., for a torchlight parade drive for ratification. "We must demand that Congress extend the deadline. I think we're going to have to

A few hours before her arrival. Vice President Mondale in Washington announced the administration's stand: "We strongly urge Congress to extend the ratifi-

cation date. ERA's adoption is long overdue. It threatens no one, and it guarantees equal rights to those so long denied.

President Carter went to Illinois in November and urged the legislature to ratify the amendment. When the rejection vote came Wednesday, sponsor Rep. Alan J. Greiman said, "I could have drawn up a million scenarios, but that would not have been one of them '

However, the Illinois Senate would still have had to approve, and it had even less support than the House. Anyhow. the amendment is again before the legislature. There could be a vote this week, and sponsors have vowed there will be one before June 30 adjournment

National legislation to extend the ratification date seven more years passed a congressional subcommittee Monday and is before the House judiciary Committee.

Meantime, the pro-ERA people are working hard against the existing deadline to pick up the necessary 38 states. Indiana in January 1977 was the 35th and last to ratify; that was to have been a big year, but nothing happened except some disappointingly close

The proponent ERAmerica organization pointed to the Illinois de feat as an example of the "extraordinary lengths which women must in the fight, and ERAmerica co-leader Liz Carpenter says "Women again fell through the cracks of the legislative process Again we were betraved

a handful of votes. As for the three more states necessary to ratify, Elly Peterson, the other ERAmerica top leader, says a strong effort is being made in five states Florida, Illinois, both Carolinas and Oklahoma

"Florida is a real chance. The last polls showed 62 percent there were pro-amendment,' she says.

The anti-ERA forces have objected strongly to the proponent ploy of boycott, of asking national organizations to refrain from holding conventions in states that have not ratified. Before the Illinois vote, Chicago was reported to have lost more than \$20 million in convention business New Orleans tourist officials say they've lost \$10 million

One estimate is that 15 states lost \$100 million in conventions.

The amendment's guarantee of equal rights is in a single sentence:

"Equality of rights under the law shall not be de nied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. That would bar discrimination by govern-ment officials but not generally by private groups unless they had

heavy government ties.

The big anti-ERA publicized objection is to the measure's Section Two, which says that Congress shall have power to enforce the "appropriate legislation." Phyllis Schafly says, "That would give the federal people control over such marriage and



Mrs. Friedan

Mrs. Georgia Peter son, who is running for a fifth term in the Utah legislature; says, "Some great and glorious con

wanted all the power in Congress. If people say to me, "Don't you trust Congress?' I say, 'No, I don't.' We legislators certainly have the reading of our own neighbors.

"My constituents when campaign say to me that they are concerned about education, taxes, law enforcement drugs - things that are family oriented. They're not saying to pass laws in the area of homosexuals, abortions. This is where ERA proponents have

turned people off.
"State legislatures are representatives of grass

for our constituencies. This is the people talking I believe ERA is dead period I believe the lastditch move in Congress to extend the time is proof positive

Mrs. Joan M. Gubbins. an Indiana state senator for 10 years, says, "No amendment has ever taken more than three years and 11 months to ratify. This one has gone on six years now. The big problem for most legislaors is Section Two: we know the federal government has usurped most of the power.

"The mood against

The biggest jump for ward for opposition was the International Women's ference in Houston last November People saw on television that the feminist movement included a number of lesbians, pro-abortionists, prostitutes, socialists, Marxists - and they feel that the cohesive force

ERA movement The pro-ERA people charge dirty politics, that there are accusations that have no relation to feminine legal rights,

for all these groups is the



Mondale

would encourage homosexuality, Marxism, unisex bathrooms; that opponents use in credible scare stories saying the amendment about women being homosexuals being permitted to marry

"Basically," one ob-server says, "the oppo-nents appeal to the fear of housewives that they will have to go out and support themselves. There are a lot of homemakers who can't make money, who want to be supported by husbands. They see times changing. When a bunch of house wives show up at the state capitol with cakes and roses, they convince a lot of legislators that a favoring vote would change the way of Ameri-

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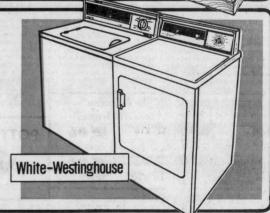
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Pride and prejudice

By Ellen Goodman

Boston Globe columnist

There is a shop in Springfield, Ill., where some grown-ups trade votes with less integrity than children trade baseball cards.

This shop is not a whole lot different from the others in the chain of state capitols. Many of the employees of the people, calling themselves representatives, spend their days playing swapping-games with each other.

They call it legislating. They call it playing "hard ball." They call it horse-trading.

But last week, the Springfield shop gave a classic example, a mini-drama that showed in the clearest terms how the Equal Rights Amendment has been dealt with. As if it's just another nag.

Last Wednesday, the ERA came up for a vote in the House of Representatives. Twice before, in that bargaining hall, it had won a simple majority of the votes. Once it had won the necessary three-fifths majority, only to be bottled up in committee. But this time, the ERA supporters—a cautious group who learned the hard way from years of idealistic naivete—thought they had the votes, perhaps even a path through the Senate.

But a funny thing happened. A funny thing often happens during an ERA vote, whether it's in Tallahassee or Raleigh or Springfield. Surprises and problems pop up like clowns out of a circus car. Every time you're sure the car is empty, another clown comes out.

This time, when the votes were called, five black representatives from Chicago, pro-ERA supporters from past roll calls, withheld their votes. They were in a snit against their own party for not consulting them on an issue of black leadership. So, angry and slighted, the Chicago Five, as Rep. Alan Greiman said, "stood there and let it go down without saying a word."

Later the five were not so silent. They issued the most bizarre press release ever to deserve a place in the psychological library of American history. "Today," it said, "several members of the Illinois legislative black caucus faced a very difficult choice, much like Kunta Kinte. They were asked to .

ratify a purported deal to deliver the black vote and lose their manhood or . . . lose a foot and not support the ERA forces."

Without the slightest hesitation, they asserted their "manhood" by denying women their equality. Without the slightest hesitation, they traded away decades of American history and the rights of half the population in order to protest an internal party squabble.

A fleeting principle of male pride came before a constitutional principle of female equality.

Perhaps it should have been expected. The ERA vote has hung on every irrelevant issue from a band marching in the Inaugural parade, to a state ethics investigation, to a religious endorsement. If it's stalled three states short of victory, it's not because of backlash or the New Conservatism or all the other trendy little things.

The amendment has been the victim of disinterest, hostility, or fear toward women's rights. It's been held back by a dozen men in a few states who consider it a tradable commodity.

The pro-ERA forces in Illinois have regrouped and introduced another resolution. There is a small chance that it will come up for a vote again this month. The supporters hope that the pride of the Chicago Five can be appeased. They hope to hold together the chewing gum coalition of votes massed for last Wednesday's assault.

But while that is being decided in the Springfield shop this week, the issue will come up in another way in Washington, D.C. The bill to extend the ERA deadline from March 1979 to March 1986 has been sent to the House Judiciary Committee. There's no piece of evidence that supports its passage more solidly than the Springfield saga.

After watching that piece of bartering, the need for an extension is obvious. We need it because, as Liz Carpenter, co-chair of ERAmerica said, getting the 38 states before next March "is going to be a cliff-hanger and human justice shouldn't be a cliff-hanger.

And we need it to remind state legislators that equality isn't a Babe Ruth card that can be so cavalierly traded for pride or prejudice.

House passes resolution

Extension of ERA deadline opposed

Springfield (AP)

A resolution asking Congress not to extend the March 22, 1979, deadline for ratifying the proposed Equal Rights Amendment has been approved by the Illinois House.

"The thing (ERA) has dragged on for seven years," complained Rep. Dwight P. Friedrich, R-Centralia, as the House approved the resolution 85-66 Friday.

Congress is considering a proposal to extend for another seven years the deadline for ratifying the ERA.

Meanwhile, about 15 members of the Illinois chapter of the National Organization for Women rallied outside the Statehouse and displayed a stuffed turkey they said represented Gov. James Thompson.

"I think it's very inappropriate for a resolution of this kind to come from the only state that changed its rules to re-

quire a three-fifths majority vote (on the ERA)," argued Rep. Goudyloch E. Dyer, R-Hinsdale, an ERA supporter.

A requirement for a three-fifths majority vote to ratify constitutional amendments is part of the rules of the Illinois General Assembly, and twice in June the House fell short of achieving this.

A three-fifths vote also is required to change such rules.

"We must tell our congressmen that we are through with this issue," argued Rep. Ronald D. Griesheimer, R-Waukegan, another ERA foe. "To those of you who lost, take your loss gracefully and let this resolution go through." ERA supporters, arguing that a majority of Illinois lawmakers have voted consistently for the proposed 27th Amendment banning sex discrimination, are seeking an ERA vote during November

in the Illinois Senate, where prospects for approval appear dim.

"Human rights have no deadline," an ERA sponsor, Rep. Alan J. Greiman, D-Skokie, argued.

Naomi Ross, state NOW president, said half the Republicans in the Illinois House voted against ERA on a 105-71 roll call June 22, despite Thompson's urgings for a vote to approve.

"Is Thompson a leader of his party or not? Or is he a turkey?" asked Ms. Ross. "Either he has been defeated by the right wing, or he has been bought out by them."

Did Illinois Legislators Vote 60 Women's Bills to Ease Guilt because They Didn't Approve ERA?

SPRINGFIELD, III. (AP) - More than 60 laws affecting women's rights have been approved by the Illinois Legislature in the past two years. But that same body refused to give the governor's women's advocate the money she felt she needed to run her office, so she quit.

And some lawmakers say laws affecting women's issues are passing largely legislators feel because guilty about not voting for the proposed federal Equal Rights Amendment, which has repeatedly failed in Illi-

"They vote for a lot of feminist legislation to show that they're not really against women, but that they're against the ERA," said Rep. Alan J. Greiman, D-Skokie, a chief ERA supporter.

Clark Sen. Dawn Netsch, D-Chicago, another ERA supporter, said that this year "wasn't a landmark year for women's rights" but that "when ERA passes it will begin to fall into place."

However, Rep. George R-Kankakee, Ryan, House minority leader and an ERA opponent, said "I don't know why (legislators) would feel guilty about their vote on ERA."

Ryan said women fare better when laws are passed that deal with specific problems, rather than a more umbrella-like law such as

ERA which would flatly ban sex discrimination.

"I don't see (passage of the amendment) as sweeping panacea women," said Ryan.

Johnson, Kristina Women's Advocate for the Illinois House, said she feels lawmakers have recently done a "really terrific job in regard to women's issues."

Among the 64 bills they passed into law were measures increasing the rights of women who are involved in rape, divorce, domestic

violence, and entering the job market.

Legislators agreed to make inadmissable as evidence in court the past sexual conduct of a rape victim ernor said. except with the accused, and to allow a beaten spouse to seek a civil court order to keep the spouse-beater out of their home for 30 days.

The Legislature also passed into law a bill authorizing funds for centers in Carbondale and Chicago to provide for referral, training and counseling services for women who are entering or re-entering the job marare used by women who re- of a secretary. divorced and find that for the first time in many years they provide sole for themselves or their families.

But the Legislature this missions. year refused to give Gov. cate office. The governor

asked for a lump sum of \$525,000 for his women's, consumer's and children's advocates, but got only \$207,000, an aide to the gov-

Marianne Smigelskis, appointed by Thompson as the women's advocate in October 1977, said "it was clearly much of a shoestring operation. (Thompson) had anticipated that the funds would come through."

But she said she went on vacation for a month during the summer and came back to find that the budget approved for the office could ket. These centers primarily only pay her salary and that

cently have been widowed or Ms. Smigelskis resigned at the end of August, and was replaced by Peg Blaser, formerly the governor's assistant for boards and com-

Said Ms. Smigelskis: James R. Thompson as "It did not seem to me that I much money as he request- would be able to accomplish ed to fund his women's advo- what I would have liked to get done."

ERA Passage Faces Additional Hurdles

SPRINGFIELD, III. (AP) — A proposal to make it easier to ratify the proposed federal Equal Rights Amendment in the Illinois House has been rejected by the powerful House Rules Committee — dealing yet another blow to ERA's chances in Illinois.

Committee members voted 13-12 Thursday against a proposal eliminating the three-fifths majority

Illinois Legislature

 or 107 votes — required to ratify amendments to the federal Constitution and substituting a majority, or 89 votes.

The committee action, coming on the birthday of suffragette Susan B. Anthony, followed by one day a similar refusal by the full Senate to change its rules. The Senate action came on Valentine's Day.

A floor fight on the issue is expected

again in the House next week.

"We're not just talking about ERA, we're talking about a lot of things down the road," said Rep. Dwight P. Friedrich, R-Centralia, arguing in committee against reducing the requirement. "I think we're tampering here with something that's sacred."

Rep. Michael J. Madigan, D-Chicago, House Majority leader, countered that the complicated process for amending the U.S. Constitution, including ratification by three-fourths of the states, assures that it won't be easily altered.

After the vote, Rep. Alan J. Greiman, D-Skokie, chief House ERA supporter, said the committee's action does not mean ERA is dead in the House for the next two years. "I'm sure that we'll fight it on the (House) floor." he said.

ERA fell two votes short of the 107 necessary for approval in the House last June, and supporters say the amendment would be easily ratified if the requirement was lowered to 89 votes.

Committee passes bill to ban press searches

Springfield (AP)

Responding to a plea that "the whole notion of free press in a free society is at stake," an Illinois House committee approved Thursday a bill generally banning police searches of newsrooms or reporters' homes for unpublished information.

A House Judiciary Committee voted 8-2 to send the bill to the full House.

Under the bill, the only time police could search a newsroom or a reporter's home would be when they believe the reporter has committed a crime or might destroy evidence of a crime.

Rep. Alan Greiman, D-Skokie, said he decided to sponsor the bill after a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision upheld a random police search of the Stanford Daily student newspaper in Palo Alto, Calif., for pictures related to

an ongoing police investigation.

That decision has led to 14 police searches of newspaper offices around the country, said Bill Miller, a journalism professor who testified on behalf of the Illinois News Broadcasters Association and the Sangamon Valley Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

Although none of the searches has occurred in Illinois, the Illinois Press Association has received several phone calls since the Standford Daily decision from reporters who have been threatened with police searches, Dave West, manager of the association, testified.

Miller said if Greiman's bill does not pass, "police, in effect, would have unhampered freedom to go on fishing ex-

peditions."

"Suppose, for example, an investigative reporter were working on an expose within the local police department. Police, with the aid of a sympathetic judge, could obtain a search warrant and seize the file on some trumped-up pretext," Miller said.

The law now generally allows socalled "third party searches" of persons not suspected of a crime who may have evidence that a crime has been committed.

But Greiman, Miller, and West said reporters should be an exception. They said random searches of the media for evidence threaten reporters' constitutionally protected press freedoms.

"Reporters cherish their First Amendment rights of freedom of the

press," Miller said.

Greiman said allowing the searches might cause reporters' confidential sources to dry up, or make them afraid to record some of their observations.

He said law enforcement officials who believe reporters have evidence of a crime can subpoena the reporter or his notes.

He said the court stated in the Standford Daily case that its decision did not preclude a legislature from passing laws prohibiting unreasonable search and seizure.

Rep. Peg McDonnell Breslin, D-Serena, who opposed the bill, said she wanted to see more consideration of whether third-party searches should be banned altogether, protecting the general public as well as the media.

A bill that would ban all such searches was scheduled to be heard by the committee Thursday, but consideration

of the bill was postponed.

March 9, 1979

SPRINGFIELD (AP) — Turning aside arguments that the measure was unconstitutional, the Illinois General Assembly Tuesday overturned Gov. James R. Thompson's veto of a bill clamping strict new controls on abortions in the

Final action on the bill came as the House voted 118-44 to override the veto. The Senate voted to override two weeks

earlier.
"It has become one of the great traditions of the Illinois General Assembly to pass abortion bills that are patently unconstitutional," Rep. Alan J. Greiman, D-Skokie, argued during emo-

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tional floor debate on the issue.

But abortion foes said the bill should get the benefit of a court ruling and complained that the Legislature should

not prejudge it as unconstitutional. "This bill could prevent the destruction of millions of unborn children," said Rep. Richard F. Kelly, D-Hazel Crest, a staunch abortion opponent. "It could be a model for the rest of the United

States."

The bill establishes a broad new range of controls over abortions in Illinois. It prohibits a woman from getting an abortion within 24 hours after being diagnosed pregnant, and requires a doc-

tor to certify that, in his judgment, the

operation is necessary.

The measure also requires a doctor to inform the woman's husband before the operation is performed, and that a

minor's parents be similarly notified.

Furthermore, the bill orders a doctor to counsel a woman seeking an abortion, and her husband if she is married, about a variety of aspects surrounding the operation. This would include telling her it is the state's official policy that life

begins at the instant of conception. The bill also creates 19 new criminal offenses for doctors who perform abor-

Thompson vetoed the bill last month, saying it was "replete with defects." He said some of the bill's provisions, including the one regarding notification of a minor's parents, already had been ruled unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme

Court.

"Its provisions, and indeed its intent, represent an attempt to prohibit abortions under the guise of regulation,"

Thompson said.

House opponents generally argued along the same lines as the governor, saying the bill was an attempt by anti-

abortion forces to block abortions.
"As far as I'm concerned this bill is

simply a way to harrass women who want abortions on demand," Rep. Anne Willer, DHillside, said in favor of the bill, adding she generally is opposed to

abortion.

However, supporters argued that the measure was an attempt to make abortions safer and to bring together the family when abortions are being considered. They said the bill did not abridge the rights of a woman seeking

an abortion.

"There is nothing in here which prohibits a woman from going ahead with whatever decision she may have reached," said Rep. Harry D. Leinenweber R. Joliet.

Merits Of ERA Fast Divide Illinois Lawmakers



UPI photo

Sonia Johnson remains weak from ERA hunger strike.

But Most Say They're Worried, Disturbed

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Illinois lawmakers don't agree on whether the fast by seven women for the Equal Rights Amendment will affect ratification. But many do agree that they're worried and disturbed about the starvation lobby.

"I'm appalled," Rep. Craig Findley said. "This is counterproductive ... it will breed revulsion rather

than sympathy."

Findley, who calls himself an ERA opponent "with reservations," said he and many colleagues are offended by the hunger strike. Some, he said, see the strike as greatly intensifying the "circus atmosphere" that usually surrounds the Legislature during the last weeks of its spring session.

Until the 19th of this month, efforts to pass the amendment, aimed at banning discrimination on the basis of sex, had taken more traditional paths. But then, the seven women arrived and announced they would not eat until the June 30 deadline for ERA approval or until the amendment was passed.

Rep. Alan Greiman, an ERA backer from Skokie, called the strike a "fine symbol" of the pain endured by women.

However, ERA supporter Rep. Jim Reilly said lawmakers should not allow themselves to be influenced by the strike.

"ERA ought to go up or down on the merits of the issue and not on some sideshow," he said.

Many of the 236 legislators who make up the Illinois General Assem-

bly say that while the strike has become the subject of derisive comments among lawmakers, they fear what might happen if any of the strikers should die.

ERA backers have tried for a decade to ratify the proposed amendment in Illinois, the only Northern industrial state that hasn't endorsed it. Illinois also is the only unratified state requiring a three-fifths vote of its Legislature for approval.

To become part of the U.S. Constitution, 38 states must endorse ERA. Thirty-five states have ratified; five have withdrawn support and the legality of that action is pending before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The hunger strikers from Washington, D.C., California, Colorado and North Carolina included Sonia Johnson of Sterling, Va., who was earlier expelled from the Mormon Church for her ERA activity. Since the strike began, they have camped out in the Capitol rotunda each day the Legislature has met.

One said they will rest this weekend, although Johnson, showing effects of the fast, was still quite weak.

Some lawmakers say the strike is understandable, even if its effects are uncertain.

But Republican House Speaker George Ryan, who sets the schedule of the GOP-controlled chamber, said, "I don't think they're helping their cause or themselves. I don't think they're going to change anybody's vote."



Equal Rights Amendment supporters listened to speeches by a member of the National Organization for Women during a rally in Washington, D.C., yesterday.

10-year ERA debate has low-key ending

By BERNIE SCHOENBURG
Pantagraph Springfield bureau

SPRINGFIELD — Acting like grief-stricken relatives eulogizing the dead, 11 members of the Illinois House who favored the Equal Rights Amendment said last night that they hope the effect of the 10-year ERA debates lives on.

"In the push to enact the Equal Rights Amendment, tremendous gains have been realized in the struggle for independence," said Rep. Eugenia Chapman, D-Arlington Heights.

It was a low-key ending to the ERA controversy that got three years of added life beyond the normal seven-year ratification period.

It was also the ending of a tumultuous two months in Spring-field, a period during which accusations flew, ERA supporters fasted and a virtual state of seige existed on some days due to the actions of militant women angered by ERA's imminent defeat.

During the 10 years, Mrs. Chapman said, the number of women in the Illinois Legislature has gone from four to 31; anti-sex descrimination provisions were added to the state's fair employment code; legislation to provide protection and services for rape and domestic violence victims has become law; prohibition of unnecessary strip searches has taken effect; and sex-neutral language has been written into many laws.

But Rep. Alan Greiman, D-Skokie, said the fact that ERA has been before the Legislature for those 10 years has served as a "fulcrom" to

tip the balance toward enactment of such laws. Lawmakers opposed to ERA could tell their constituents they were for equal rights, and prove it with votes on such issues.

"The question is, what will happen now that those legislators are free?" he said, adding he and the others will work for re-introduction and eventual passage of ERA to keep that pressure on.

The arguments about the accomplishments of women are similar to arguments of those who have opposed ERA. "You are going to be better off if you translate your vigor and enthusiasm into enforcing the current Constitution," Rep. Donald Deuster, R-Mundelein, said to ERA supporters as he debated the amendment June 22 on the House floor.

It was on that day that the House, voting for the ninth time on ERA, tallied 103-72 for the amendment, four votes short of the 107 needed for passage. There were 69 Democrats and 34 Republicans for it.

When the Senate voted Friday, the result was 31-27 for the ERA, five votes short of the 36 needed for ratification. Twenty-four Democrats and seven Republicans voted for the ERA.

In both cases, the majority of members voted for ERA, but unique rules in the Illinois Legislature require three-fifths votes to ratify federal amendments.

Clark Netsch, D-Chicago, an ERA advocate, said, "The one constant that recurs every time is the three-fifths rule." Why did it stay? Mrs. Netsch said some lawmakers genuinely wanted to keep the provision, which is more stringent than the

federal requirement that states ratify with simple majorities.

Others, she said, used the rule "to play both sides of the issue."

But Phyllis Schlafly, the Alton woman who spearheaded the Stop-ERA movement in the U.S., has called attempts by ERA advocates to get the rules changed "sleazy."

Her explanation for why ERA failed is, "We showed that the majority of people, especially women, are against the ERA, and they let their legislators know it."

She claims polls showing the opposite resulted from biased questions.

Mrs. Netsch said that after ERA was ratified by 30 states, there was a pause for unknown reasons. She claims that's when the opposition gelled, and when ERA "became something other than what it really was."

But others disagree. It was only then, said Rep. Gerald Bradley, D-Bloomington, that people examined closely what the language of the ERA meant, and the sweeping changes the language could cause when combined with court action.

ERA backers said House Speaker George Ryan blocked a vote on the rules change. Ryan, R-Kankakee, an ERA opponent, did allow a debate and a floor vote on ERA in the House.

He also allowed the House Rules Committee to debate changing the rules. The 11 Republicans voted against allowing a vote on the House floor to change the rules.

Only after a last-minute replacement on the committee by House Minority Leader Michael Madigan were Democrats able to set up Republicans as taking all the blame.

Gov. James R. Thompson has also figured prominently as a target for barbs from ERA supporters. He has been for ERA, but he took no position on the move to change House and Senate rules.

After the Senate vote, Thompson said "There's been this kind of fingerpointing and arm-waving and blaming and charges and countercharges for 10 years and it led to nothing."

Among Central Illinois senators, only Sen. John Grotberg, R-St. Charles, voted for ERA. Against it were Sens. Jerome Joyce, D-Reddick; Laura Kent, R-Quincy; John Maitland Jr., R-Bloomington; and Roger Sommer, R-Morton.

In the House vote, which was not officially recorded because the measure was put on postponed consideration to await another vote that did not materialize, the count showed Reps. Peg McDonnell Breslin, D-Serena; Ray Christensen, D-Morris; Michael McClain, D-Quincy; and Joe D. Ozella Jr., voting for the ERA.

Against it were Reps. Jay Ackerman, R-Morton; Gerald Bradley, D-Bloomington; Thomas Ewing, R-Pontiac; Craig Findley, R-Virginia; Betty Hoxsey, R-Ottawa; Judy Koehler, R-Henry; Jeffrey Mays, R-Quincy; Edward McBroom, R-Kankakee; Gordon Ropp, R-Normal; Sam Vinson, R-Clinton; and House Speaker George Ryan, R-Kankakee.