

OR MAYBE HE HASN'T DONE LAUNDRY IN MONTHS AND HE'S USED UP EVERY OTHER ARTICLE OF CLEAN CLOTHES HE'S GOT!



Group opposes abolition of state ad valorem taxes

United Press International
AUSTIN — The Texas Association of College Teachers called on the Legislature Tuesday to hold off abolishing the state advalorem property tax until a discontinuous property tax until a constitution at 10 cents for a consti twice a ya permanent method for funding niversity construction is found. Gov. William Clements has

et a special session of the Legislture for May 24 to abolish constitutional provisions for the operty tax. Clements also vants the legislators to provide nterim construction funding for the 17 colleges and universities that had depended on the

tax for revenue.

Frank Wright, executive director of TACT, said he sent a letter to Clements asking that the special session be opened to formulating a permanent funding solution for the 17 colleges itside the well-financed Texas A&M and University of Texas

He said Clements' plan for interim funding was a "band-aid approach" that could hinder efforts to find a permanent funding solution for the schools.

Wright said his organization does not endorse any particular permanent solution but thinks setting the property tax at an assessment ratio of 3 cents is the

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"What is proposed in the spe-

every \$100 of assessed valuation, has not been collected since 1979 when lawmakers reduced the assessment ratio to nearly

Since that time, the 17 colleges have been virtually without building funds.

Midwestern University, one of the schools, has filed suit claiming that by reducing the assessment ratio, the lawmakers amended the constitution without a vote of the people.

Clements is hoping abolition of the tax will nullify the Midwestern suit and ward off any attempt to collect what could be nearly \$1 billion in back taxes should Midwestern win its case.

Wright said his organization

most workable plan.

JUST SOMETHING

UH-HUH ..

NICE FOR A

CHANGE.

(AHUM)

A similar plan was proposed last session by Sen. W.E. Snel-failed in the Senate.



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Texas bridges

United Press International AUSTIN — Representatives

of a transportation association said Tuesday it will cost more than \$2.7 billion to repair 17,276 substandard bridges in Texas, which has more bad bridges than any state in the na-

A study by the Washingtonbased Road Information Program said 37.9 percent of Texas' 45,526 major bridges were substandard. The study was fi-nanced by the Texas Good Roads and Transportation Association, a contractors orga-

"Texas ranks No. 1 in a lot of things, but ranking No. 1 in bad bridges is not something to be

The study recommended a 15-year bridge improvement program that would allot about \$185 million a year to repairing bridges that are too old or too weak for existing traffic.

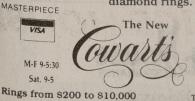
Ledbetter said the group had not yet decided on a method for financing the program, but the report indicated Texas' 5-cent gasoline tax could be increased to generate more money

The study pointed out there was no danger of the deficient bridges collapsing, and said the biggest dangers were narrow clearances, dangerous approaches and badly worn surproud of," Harry Ledbetter of faces that would increase the TGRTA said at a news conferchance of accidents.



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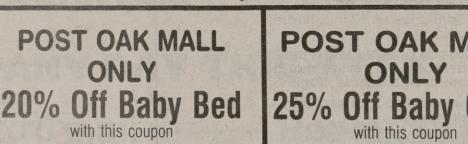
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