Ohio voters don't go for Issue Five

By MARTHA LANE

Ohio voters overwhelmingly rejected State Issue Five, a chemical labeling and warning measure, on Nov. 3.

Issue Five would have been financially devastating to golf courses, farmers, and other small businesses in the state, according to John McGough of Ohioans for Responsible Health Information, the leading opponents of the measure. It was was defeated 78 percent to 22 percent. Had it passed, golf courses which use substances containing any amount of 458 pollutants listed in the bill would have needed to post notifications on the premises and to provide leaflets or letters to all who reside or work within a two-mile radius of the area.

The measure had enjoyed early favor among the voters. A late grass roots push made by those most likely to be affected convinced the electorate the proposal did not provide useful information, was costly, and was of no environmental benefit. It is unlikely a simi

likely a similar measure will be put before the voters any time soon. A watered-down version of the bill, excluding the two-mile warning requirement, may be presented directly to the legislature in the next few years.

Golf Course Europe draws 600

The fifth annual Golf Course Europe was held Nov. 12-14 in Monte Carlo. Approximately 800 developers, managers and sales representatives visited the 45 exhibitors at this exposition.

Golf Course Europe was organized for the first time this year by Executive Conferences and Seminars, Inc. of San Rafael, Calif. Executive purchased the exhibition in April of 1992 from Expo Consult of the Netherlands, which had organized it since its inception in 1988.

Boris Franchomme, director of Exhibits at Executive Conferences and Seminars, Inc., plans an even larger exposition next year. Exhibit space will be nearly twice as large, and the site will be moved to Paris to provide easier travel access to those attending. Golf Course Europe 1993 is scheduled for Dec. 1-3, 1993.

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Economy box 6%" diameter x 9" deep

G" Flared box

103/4" x 16" x 6" to 18" deep

'There's still a lot of money in Japan — but it's real money now... They're paying realistic figures.'

> — Stephen Allen, Connex Private Ltd.

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Clearly, the first two factors are related. Further, golf development in the region is somewhat dependent on Japanese investment,

"I think it's quite dependent," Allen concurred. "But you have to segment the market. Japan has a greater effect in north Asia, including Hong Kong, while Southeast Asia isn't affected to nearly the same degree. In fact, Indonesia — which has a dynamic economy all its own — isn't dependent on Japan at all.

"And there's still a lot of money in Japan — but it's real money now. By that I mean they used to spend a lot of money with no expectation of return. Now they're paying realistic figures."

The GCSAA bid was made official in April 1992, when GCSAA representatives invited Connex officials to a meeting in Singapore. The atmosphere was less than cordial, said Allen.

"We walked in and they said, 'This is our lawyer,' " Allen recalled. "That's no way to do business. Our position hasn't changed from Day 1: We want a one-stop shopping venue. Apparently, they don't."

The GCSAA show is scheduled a week before Golf Asia '93, meaning companies will be forced to choose one marketplace or pay the price for attending two trade shows.

"The GCSAA is forcing people to spend more money. I think it's unfortunate for the industry that GCSAA has handled things the way it has. I've asked the GCSAA what its members want. Don't they want one big show? No answer was forthcoming.

"It's going to be a very interesting situation... Our doors remain open to any U.S. company. Many firms — Rain Bird, for example have increased their booth space. They realize we are a Chinese group and we have many, many contacts here."