

Aldermen's 5-3 Vote Kills Malloy's Plan

By TRAVIS MITCHELL
Chronicle Staff Writer

On Monday, the Board of Aldermen voted to approve the city's realignment proposal and nix a counter proposal that would have bolstered the number of black voters in the four wards represented by black aldermen.

North Ward Alderman Nelson Malloy must now resign himself to a black constituency that's reduced about 4 percent points to 57 percent. He had proposed a realignment plan giving him a 65 percent black population there.

Northeast Ward Alderman Vivian Burke expressed concern that Malloy's option would cut too deeply into her ward, so she and Malloy developed a compromise option.

The board voted down the Malloy-Burke option by a 5-3 vote and approved the staff's proposal 6-2. The option would have given Malloy a 61 percent black constituency.

By law, the ward lines have to be redrawn after every U.S. Census Bureau count. The census counted 160,000 residents in Winston-Salem, which means each ward must reflect a population of 20,000.

Black officials have said that in order to keep the traditional strongholds in the North, Northeast, East and Southeast wards, black population percentages must hover around 60 percent.

In October, Alderman held a public hearing on realignment to review the city's proposal and designated Nov. 3 as the date to approve it. However, between that hearing and Monday, North Ward Alderman Nelson Malloy developed a counter proposal. Currently Malloy's ward is 62 percent black.

Last week, Malloy told the Chronicle that his proposal boosted

the black population in his ward to 65 percent, instead of 57 percent under the city's proposal. Malloy's proposal was not even reviewed Monday. The only two that were brought to the floor were the staff's original proposal and the Malloy-Burke option.

Robert Northington, West Ward; Hugh Wright, South Ward; Nancy Pleasants, Northwest Ward; Lynne Harpe, Southwest Ward; and Virginia Newell, East Ward, voted against the Malloy-Burke Plan. Malloy, Burke and Southeast Ward Alderman Larry Womble all supported the measure.

Burke joined Newell and others in support of the staff's proposal, while Malloy and Womble opposed.

Burke said, "In the long run I had thoroughly looked at the staff's plan and felt it was the best for the Northeast Ward." She said that she had previously agreed to give Malloy 4 percent of her ward, but that his proposal took 8 percent. She said that the compromise was done too late to adequately be reviewed.

Afterwards, reaction was mixed.

"He did not have the votes," said East Ward Alderman Virginia Newell. She said that Malloy's proposal was not presented early enough to garner the majority vote. Newell said that she voted in favor of the staff's proposal so that the

board would not be divided along racial lines.

"In my three years on the board this is one of the biggest disappointments that I have experienced," said Malloy. "African-American Aldermen have not been able to vote on issues together that affect the African-American community."

Malloy said that he had been informing other aldermen on the process since the spring. He was most upset at the loss of the Martin Luther King, Jr. precinct, which went to Burke's ward.

"We had people work very hard in those precincts and it is a

travesty to lose it," he said.

"I did not support the city's plan because I thought it concentrated too many people in certain sections of the city," said Womble. His ward realized a black population increase from 39 percent to 48 percent.

"I thought that Malloy's option was a little more equitable," Womble said that he thought that Malloy had done a good job in preparing his option.

The new ward lines will be enforced during the 1993 Board of Aldermen elections.

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Arizona Approves King Holiday

PHOENIX (AP) — Arizona voters rejected a tough anti-abortion measure, approved a state holiday in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. and crushed impeached Gov. Evan Mecham's political comeback bid.

Republican Sen. John McCain won re-election Tuesday, defeating Mecham and Democrat Claire Sargent. President Bush narrowly won the eight electoral votes of this normally reliable GOP state.

With 93 percent of the precincts reporting, Bush had 503,508 votes, or 39 percent, to 486,417, or 37 percent, for Bill Clinton and 314,182, or 24 percent, for Ross Perot.

McCain won 683,996 votes, or 56 percent, to 389,965, or 32 percent, for Sargent and 129,729, or 11 percent, for Mecham, also with 93 percent of precincts reporting.

It was Mecham's second comeback attempt since he was impeached as governor and removed from office in 1988. He ran for governor again in 1990 but lost in the GOP primary.

GOP Rep. Jay Rhodes, caught up in the House banking scandal, lost his re-election bid. Democrat Karan English won in the new 6th Congressional District, making the state's congressional delegation a 3-3 split between Democrats and Republicans.

A measure that would ban abortions except to save the mother's life was rejected by more than 2-1.

The King holiday won 61 percent, two years after voters rejected two proposals for the holiday and cost the state the 1993 Super Bowl. Arizona was the only state without such a holiday.

Voters also approved a term-limits measure for state and federal legislators.

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