

Bill would benefit jobless

Legislation aimed at creating jobs and generating more federal contracts for small businesses in Michigan and nine other economically ravaged states was introduced recently by Congressman William S. Broomfield (R-15th District).

The proposal would require federal agencies to increase by 5 percent the contracts they presently set aside for small business, and designate them for companies in the 10 states with the highest unemployment rates, Broomfield said.

Currently, federal agencies allotting contracts make no distinctions concerning high unemployment rates.

"Over the years, Michigan has been

among those states paying the highest taxes with the least return in federal dollars. Now is the time for Washington to help Michigan — when we need it most," said Broomfield.

"Michigan's jobless workers, the largest such group in the nation, and our small business community would be the prime beneficiaries of my bill."

The congressman said Tuesday he sent his bill to the White House for President Reagan's review, hoping it may gain the administration's support.

"More than just defense contracts" would be involved, he said. Which companies are chosen to do government work will depend on which of the various federal agencies are levying contracts.

Though he "cannot speak for the Democrats who control the Small Business Committee" (which soon will begin hearings on the bill), Broomfield said he would hope his bill would attract wide support, and that it will emerge in much the same form as it was proposed.

Broomfield sees his state as "having unique problems. It's going to take a little longer for recovery in Michigan than in other areas of the country."

The veteran congressman's faith in the Reagan administration remains strong.

"We have to cut down on government spending, and we have to cut defense spending deeper than has been indicated so far in the budget — I'm not fixed



Rep. William Broomfield

on the request made of Congress — but I think basically we're on the right track."

3 hugs a day keep the physician at bay

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headaches, backaches and menstrual cramps.

PORTNER ALSO stresses the importance of attitude in staying well. At Troy Town Hall, he brought Lathrup Village resident Clarence Gleason up on stage to demonstrate the power of positive thinking.

When Gleason was thinking "happy" thoughts, Portner was unable to push the retiree's extended arm down — despite a football injury which resulted in a reconstructed shoulder. But "sad" thoughts made the arm come right down.

Then Portner asked the audience to think "happy" and "sad" thoughts. While Gleason's eyes were closed, the results were the same.

"It's a trick, fun and kibitz, but what it really shows is that we are responsible for how we feel by our own thoughts," said Portner.

"And our own thoughts make us responsible for how other people feel. If we surround ourselves with miserable people thinking nasty thoughts we're going to feel rotten."

RESPONSIBILITY FOR your own health is stressed in the doctor's Saturday radio show, where he takes health pledges and talks about "medicine, health and the economics and politics

of medicine."

Portner believes doctors should be responsive to patients' needs. But patients must also make their desires known.

"It's not my job to tell people how they should be cared for. It's to present alternatives and expose them to a potpourri," he said firmly.

"It's not up to anybody to force what they believe on anyone. The job of physicians — which they haven't assumed — is to be educators, pathfinders."

That's the role Portner is taking through his Michigan Center for Holistic Medical Studies. With businessman Art Baker and psychologist Steve Goren — who looked into holistic medicine after suffering a heart attack at 36 — he is dedicated to educating people about the value of physical, psychological and spiritual harmony through self-help.

The center is sponsoring a 19-hour stress reduction seminar Feb. 6 in Lawrence Institute of Technology, Southfield.

While he takes occasional potshots at other physicians, Portner claims 10 percent of his patients are doctors and their families.

HE OFTEN advises questioners — as he did at Troy Town Hall — to have

their doctors call him for more information.

But the jovial Portner said other physicians don't resent him because he won't argue his case. "If you don't argue back and pick fights there's no trouble," he said.

"I never force my opinion."

On the air, he occasionally quips: "It's not the gospel according to Leonard — it's just an opinion."

Married and the father of two daugh-

ters, Portner practices at home what he prescribes for others. But while the family is health-oriented, his teenagers do eat fast food occasionally.

"You can't tell a 12 and 14 year old what to eat. If they want to go to McDonald's they go or I pick it up for them," he said with a smile.

"Fighting creates more stress for them and for me. Nobody ever died from eating one Big Mac."

Intermarriage faced

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"There is no reason children can't enjoy holidays of both sides if viewed in a cultural way and not made to believe the other side is wrong," he said.

Wine and Miller said there is more acceptance of intermarriages today. "It's a circle," Miller said. "There are more intermarriages so there is more acceptance."

"People are more open-minded by virtue of education and work experience," Wine said.

Wine said the subject of intermarriage is still debated within the Jewish faith.

"Traditional Jews believe it is

wrong. Most Reform Jews view it as unfortunate," he said. Some Reform rabbis officiate at intermarriages reluctantly, he added. "That makes the couple feel terrible."

"We respect their choice," said Wine, a member of humanistic Judaism. "We want to help them, we don't want to make it hard for them."

Fees for the workshop are \$15 per couple and \$10 per individual. Lunches will be served. For more information, call the Birmingham Temple office at 477-1410.

Miller added that such "flexibility and adaptability" are good for a marriage. "If they begin to do that on the issue of intermarriage, it will spread into other areas," she said.

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