

# Bus Delay Will Pass -- Broomfield

## WASHINGTON

The much publicized amendment to delay any court-ordered bussing plan until all appeals are exhausted is almost assured of final passage, according to its sponsor U.S. Rep. William Broomfield (R-Royal Oak).

Broomfield introduced the amendment during debate on the school aid bill on Nov. 4. It passed in a 235-135 vote, then was referred to a conference committee.

"The amendment I offered was to prevent any federal judge from imposing any far-reaching plans until all parties have been heard," Broomfield said.

THE IMPOSITION of any bussing plan will have far reaching effects on the school districts throughout the country, he said, adding that it shouldn't be enforced until all appeals are heard.

Broomfield said the overwhelming majority of his mail from his 18th District constituents (including Southfield) has been in favor of his amendment and opposed to forced bussing. To date he has received "75,000 to 100,000" letters.

"I do hope Congress, the state legislatures and the local school boards in the country will begin to bring up educational standards so that all children will have equal education," Broomfield, who has opposed bussing for racial balance, said.

Broomfield pointed out the fact that one school district in Iowa is spending more money on bussing than on education.

"That shows the enormous cost factor involved," he said.

THE SCHOOL aid bill is currently in a conference committee, and Broomfield said he is "reasonably sure of its final passage."

Voting for Broomfield's amendment from Observerland were U.S. Reps. Jack McDonald (R-Farmington), William Ford (D-Taylor) and Marvin Esch (R-Ann Arbor).

Broomfield said he voted for two other amendments tacked on the bill, as did McDonald, Ford and Esch. One amendment was to prohibit use of federal funds for bussing and to prevent the federal government from requiring that a state spend its own funds for bussing.

# Esch Bussing Plan Defeated

Federal funds should be granted to defray costs of transporting students to achieve racial balance in school districts acting under a court order, according to U.S. Rep. Marvin Esch (R-Ann Arbor).

In an effort to help local school districts straining under court orders, Esch proposed an amendment to the federal school aid bill on Nov. 4 that would require the federal government to share some of the financial burden. The amendment was defeated 216 to 146 in a vote that showed no partisan split or north-south split, Esch said.

"MY AMENDMENT would have affected those school districts that were already under court order," Esch said. "The children suffer when the money is going out of the district to pay for bussing."

"If the federal government had ordered through the court that bussing was necessary to achieve racial balance, then I felt we had to help the local school districts."

Esch said he voted for the Ashbrook amendment proposed by Rep. J.M. Ashbrook, R-Ohio, which in general would prohibit use of federal funds for bussing to overcome racial imbalance. The difference between the proposals is that Esch's would have given aid to just those districts acting under a court order.

Nearly half of the school districts currently bussing to achieve racial balance are acting under the direction of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

OBSERVERLAND's other Congressmen opposed the Esch proposal. Voting against it were U.S. Reps. William Ford (D-Taylor), Jack McDonald (R-Farmington) and William Broomfield (R-Royal Oak).

At the end of October, Esch made a statement in the House in which he voiced opposition to bussing because of the financial and educational costs.

"The student himself must be the center of our concern," he said. "It has been shown time and again that students do not necessarily achieve more in an integrated setting."

"If the schools do not provide the education, then all the social contact in the world cannot improve the student's lot. It is the equality of the courses offered and the staff available, not just the racial mix of the students and teachers involved, which determines achievement."

"In my view, spending money on special programs for the deprived is far more important than spending it on pupil transportation."

Esch told the House that he supported the neighborhood school concept, because "children need a sense of community, a stability, if they are to develop most effectively."

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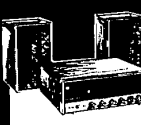
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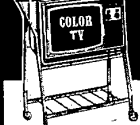
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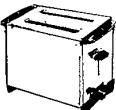
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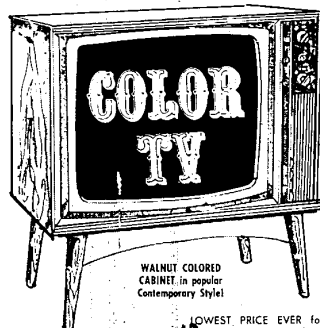
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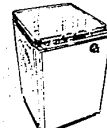
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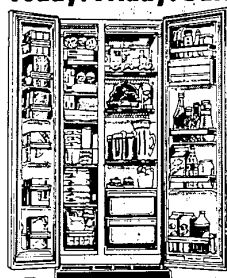


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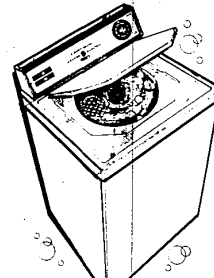
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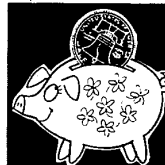
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