

Pickets press Broomfield but he sticks to views

By Tim Richard
staff writer

with signs urging "U.S. out of Central America."

Demonstrators outside U.S. Rep. William Broomfield's Birmingham office failed to shake the 18th District congressman's support of the Reagan administration's Central American policies.

To begin with, few of the 30-plus demonstrators at 430 N. Woodward were residents of his Oakland County district. More importantly, Broomfield, ranking Republican on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, simply isn't buying their argument that the United States should leave the Sandinista government of Nicaragua alone.

"They do this on a monthly basis. Same group. Same thing," said Tom Toman, Broomfield's staffer in charge of the office. "Last time, two out of the 10 were from the 18th District."

Toman turned to help a Troy man with an immigration problem as the group outside walked back and forth

AFTER PRAYER, the group sent a delegation of four inside with a statement urging Broomfield to vote against continued military aid to the counter-revolutionary "contras" in Nicaragua.

Rudy Simons, a Bloomfield Hills businessman in the demonstration, said the peace group also wants Broomfield to visit the region himself in the near future, listen to constituents who have visited Central America in a public hearing, and oppose military support to the government of El Salvador.

Simons said he has visited Nicaragua twice, one with a group called Witness for Peace and another time with an "ad hoc" group delivering medical supplies to a town in northern Nicaragua that had been attacked.

Also among the demonstrators was Maggie Tyson of the Michigan Interfaith Committee on Central American Human Rights.

Among other groups sponsoring the demonstration were Central America Solidarity Committee, the Detroit Guatemala Committee, Wayne State University Latin America Study Group and Resource Center, Michigan Coalition on Human Rights, Latin American Task Force, Groundwork for a Just World, Witness for Peace, Detroit Peace Community, and the Coalition for Peace, Jobs and Justice.

Toman determined from their flyer that all the groups had Detroit telephone numbers except one in Southfield, in the 17th Congressional District.

"BILL'S IN a Foreign Affairs Committee hearing," said Jack Sinclair, Broomfield's administrative assistant in Washington.

"They're entitled to their opinions," Sinclair said of the demonstrators. "It's what they've asked us in the past. We're aware of their opinions."



Pickets paraded in front of U.S. Rep. William Broomfield's Birmingham office to protest U.S. policies in Central America. Jim Kellerman of

Metivdale, carried his son, Noah, 2, during the picketing.

School-business partnership urged

A new state task force investigating K-12 school and business partnerships can influence Michigan's continued economic recovery, according to an Oakland University education professor who is an expert on such partnerships.

"Although business and educational institutions have worked together in the past, the need for improved and expanded partnerships is necessary at this time," said Howard Spite of Rochester.

Chaired by Michigan Bell president William Vilasov, the state task force is assessing educational needs throughout Michigan. It is seeking ideas about

business-education partnerships from intermediate school districts, chambers of commerce and interested businesses.

The Vilasov committee's survey is a result of responses to proposals made by the Governor's Educational Summit Task Force.

SPLITE CHAIRED the committee which wrote the school-business platform for Gov. James Blanchard's Educational Summit Task Force. His paper was included in the proposed 1985 goals for K-12 education.

The OUP professor said the governor's realization that good education and po-

tential economic growth are linked is "on the mark."

Spite believes such partnerships are important and can be achieved at little real cost. But a key ingredient is a good working relationship between the school district and the local chamber of commerce.

Two examples of school-business collaboration coordinated by Spite are the Flint Business Symposium and Oakland Schools' Classrooms in Industry Program.

The Flint project involved a seminar in which business representatives generated information around three basic questions: "What major trends do you

see influencing your business setting and jobs in it?" "What types of training will be needed to meet new jobs?" and "How might educational programs in schools provide the necessary training?"

General recommendations were formulated for the public schools based on the seminar results.

THE OAKLAND Intermediate School District program formed teams of educational leaders from county schools districts. It involved tours of local businesses and industries and informational seminars.

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