

March 18, 1975

[REDACTED]
Roslindale, MA

Dear [REDACTED]:

Thanks for writing to me of your concern over the need for Congress to do everything in its power to outlaw forced busing.

I share your concern. I also share your frustration, and that of the people of Roslindale and all of Boston, that the will of the House in this matter, consistently and explicitly expressed against forced busing eleven times in the 93rd Congress, was each time flaunted by the Senate -- once, at a crucial time, by only a single vote.

As you well know, a constitutional amendment would achieve permanently the objectives which we share. I signed the busing discharge petition in the 93rd Congress and, of course, will do so again when the petition becomes legally available for signing.

I have developed and filed legislation that would:

- 1 - create within the Federal Government, an office charged with responsibility for studying methods for encouraging the voluntary integration of school systems;
- 2 - create a category of funding through which the Federal Government can assist local school districts in establishing voluntary integration plans; and
- 3 - prevent implementation of court ordered busing during such time as a school district in applying for or receiving federal aid to implement a voluntary integration plan.

- continued -

page 2

This legislation, the first on any matter that I introduced in this Congress, underscores my commitment to do everything possible to prohibit forced busing in Boston.

Also, I have inventoried all other busing-related legislation introduced so far in the 94th Congress. Already I have joined with my colleagues in sponsoring legislation that deals with this matter.

Our current legislative goal, therefore, must be to continue pressuring the relevant committee members to respond to our anguish and deprivation of basic rights by acting immediately and positively on anti-busing legislation. Obviously, we should also be prepared to focus intensely on the route of the discharge petition as an effective and necessary spur to action.

Thanks for taking the time to write to me with your concerns. If I can ever be of any service to you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY
Member of Congress

[REDACTED]
Bolindale, Mass.
March 13, 1975

Dear Mr. Moakley

Enclosed please find your recent mailing which I am returning to you. I am, quite frankly, not interested in receiving mail from you except to learn what you are doing about the only issue of concern to Bolindale - that is fossil burning. All other issues are dwarfed by this outrage!

[REDACTED]



Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 94th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 121

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1975

No. 15

Mr. Speaker , Listen to these Prices

The SPEAKER. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY) is recognized for 15 minutes.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, listen to these prices.

Bread — \$0.66 a loaf in Dorchester.

Sugar — \$3.49 a 5 lb. bag in the North End.

Gasoline — \$0.56 a gallon in West Roxbury.

Home heating oil — \$620 a year in Jamaica Plain.

Electricity — \$264 a year in Roslindale.

These were the prices before President Ford's State of the Union Message.

Now, one month later, sugar, bread and other vital groceries are still priced exorbitantly. And the cost of gasoline, home heating oil, and electricity, already brutally high, are in danger of skyrocketing 50% more.

As I see it, our priorities should be to:

1. increase purchasing power for low and middle income families and individuals through a sizeable tax cut and a sharp lowering of interest rates.

2. keep the lid on fuel and food prices by demanding equitable fuel treatment for New England and pressing a tough anti-trust policy against price-gouging and giant food "conglomerates"

3. provide jobs for the 30,000 Bostonians now out of work and, until that time, provide them with adequate unemployment benefits.

As President Ford saw it (judging from his State of the Union proposals) there is nothing wrong with our economy that cannot be cured by assuring that General Foods, ITT and EXXon achieve higher profits.

In the area of purchasing power, Ford proposed a tax rebate. Under this rebate, David Rockefeller would receive two direct aid payments from the Treasury of \$500 each. A typical widow on Social Security would not receive a penny. In short, Ford's rebate proposal would fatten the wallets of America's wealthiest 17%, while the rest of us ultimately pick up the tab.

In the area of fuel costs, Ford proposed an energy tax which would increase the cost of fuel by 20 to 50% . . . 20% in the rest of the nation, nearly 50% in our own New England.

In the area of food costs, Ford admitted that they were sky-high. In the area of unemployment, Ford said and offered even less.

As for myself, I do not believe that this nation has to head into another "depression". But a depression will not be beaten back by a "leadership approach" that denies that such a threat exists.

We need straight talk and positive action from Washington. America is on the brink of a devastating economic crisis.

As a member of the House Rules Committee and the New England Congressional Caucus, and as one who grew up in the last depression, I am determined to do everything possible in my power to prevent a depression and get America's economy moving again.

MOAKLEY'S PROGRAM

PURCHASING POWER

I support a tax cut which would increase purchasing power by up to \$25 billion . . . a majority of which would go to households averaging from \$5 to \$15,000 income a year.

I support legislation to bring down interest rates. Spiralling rates are an important factor in runaway inflation and depressed housing markets and reduced consumer spending. For example a homebuyer who takes out a \$20,000 mortgage for 25 years at today's 9.31% will pay the bank a total of \$51,633.00. If that same mortgage were taken out, for example at the 7.66% rate of two years ago, the homebuyer would save \$6,667.00 . . . and we would have more homebuyers and more housing construction.

I support credit channeling, which would make money available cheaply and easily for the least inflationary uses . . . such as housing, energy conserving home improvements and business investment geared toward creating new jobs.

FUEL PRICES

To permanently lower fuel prices, I support legislation breaking up oil monopolies and restoring competitive

practices. Under our approach, oil companies could engage in only exploration, refining or retailing; they would sell off their interests in the other two areas. Breaking in this way the stranglehold of the seven major refiners could reduce retail prices by as much as 30%.

To help absorb the harsh impact of current fuel prices, I continue to support a fuel adjustment tax credit. This would especially aid New Englanders who carry an unfair share of the burden of rising fuel costs. Last year Boston electric bills rose an average \$130. Our legislation would rebate half of that or any future increases through a tax credit.

To permanently provide low cost energy supplies, I support massive federal action to develop alternative sources of energy. The cost of two B-1 bombers is more than our nation's total budget for solar and geothermal energy research. I propose that we spend at least 500% more on such research. That amount — \$510 million — would still be less than we spend today in Vietnam on a war we "withdrew from" two years ago.

To help distribute existing energy supplies fairly, I support an allocation plan that will equally spread the burden of spiralling prices for imported oil. New

England Congressmen had met with the Secretary of the Interior Morton and worked out an agreement to enable New England to obtain one third of its oil (virtually all foreign) at domestic prices. By imposing a \$3 tax, the President cancelled the benefit of this agreement. In fact, the President's tax will raise prices in New England by 35% . . . only half that in Grand Rapids, Michigan . . . and probably not at all in Houston, Texas. Those facts speak for themselves.

FOOD PRICES

To permanently lower food prices, I support legislation breaking up food . . . agri-business . . . monopolies. In the past twenty years, food prices have leapt astronomically. But only six percent of that increase went to farmers. Ninety four percent went to middlemen such as processors and wholesalers.

Our food divestiture legislation would force giant agri-business corporations to compete exclusively in growing, processing or retailing food . . . and to sell off all their interests in the other two areas.

Experts estimate that such action would drive down retail food prices by at least 25%.

I support outlawing all agricultural tax subsidies and price supports.

Currently, a huge percentage of such subsidies and supports go to giant agri-businesses as "windfall profits", while a fraction goes to small farmers.

JOBS

I support a public service employment program which would create an additional 500,000 jobs immediately, and 250,000 more each time the unemployment rate went up 0.5%. Such a program must be keyed to regional unemployment. Boston now has more than 30,000 jobless workers . . . but only 1200 public service jobs . . . and a promise of only 800 more to come. The program I propose would put 3,000 more Bostonians back to work . . . cutting our unemployment substantially.

I support increased benefits to disabled, elderly, and unemployed Americans, based on the cost of living. If prices jump 12.2% as they did last year, the Social Security, unemployment and Supplement Security Income payments should also go up 12.2%, not 5% as the President suggests. Otherwise our commitment to those disadvantaged Americans who, through their own labor helped build our country . . . is an empty one.



**MASSACHUSETTS
9th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
POSTAL PATRON - LOCAL**

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

**U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515**

Joe Moakley
M.C.

JOE MOAKLEY'S NEXT SERVICE VISIT

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
SOUTH BOSTON	Saturday February 8th	9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Congressional Office 149 A Dorchester St.
DORCHESTER	Saturday February 22nd	9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Uphams Corner Post Office 636 Columbia Rd.
ROXBURY	Saturday February 22nd	12:00 noon – 2:30 p.m.	Congressional Office 70 Warren St.
NORTH END	Saturday February 22nd	3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Hanover Street Post Office 217 Hanover Street
WEST ROXBURY	Saturday March 8th	9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	West Roxbury Post Office 1970 Centre Street
ROSLINDALE	Saturday March 8th	12:00 noon – 2:30 p.m.	Roslindale Post Office 16 Cummings Highway
JAMAICA PLAIN	Saturday March 8th	3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Jamaica Plain Post Office 655 Centre Street