

For Jimmy - Busing

I am a strong supporter of a Constitutional Amendment to prohibit the use of forced busing to achieve racial balance.

I have signed a discharge petition to bring the Amendment to the Floor of the House and bypass action -- or the inaction -- of the Judiciary Committee.

While we work to get signatures on the petition, I have worked with my colleagues who also oppose forced busing, to attempt to put a stop to it through other methods.

I was one of the leaders to have the House Democratic Caucus consider the issue of busing, and bring the vote to the House Floor.

I worked to organize a whip system with other House Members who are particularly concerned to make sure that every Democratic Member who had ever voted against busing knew about the Caucus meeting and was there to vote.

I have co-sponsored legislation to establish a White House Conference to evaluate compulsory busing and its effects.

I have testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee to urge them to report a Constitutional Amendment to prohibit forced busing.

I have met with the United States Attorney General, the United States Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, and the Solicitor General to urge intervention in an effort to bring the Boston case to the Supreme Court.

I have testified before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, Education and Welfare to say that "The Federal Government must take responsibility and reimburse Boston taxpayers for expenses incurred to implement court-ordered busing.

in the United States Congress

Although we who oppose busing are few in numbers, we are beginning to be heard. More and more pro-busing people are beginning to voice doubts. President Ford has introduced legislation that would limit the use of forced busing to five years.

Of course, this is not enough for us -- the people of Boston. We are living with forced busing right now during every day of our school year.

But our fight has only just begun. Although the steps have been small, people throughout the country are beginning to listen. And when they do, leaders will begin to listen. And when they do, we will finally put an end to the forced busing of our schoolchildren.