

# Officials say yes to no busing

Associated Press  
MIAMI BEACH, Fla. — The most widespread agreement among the nation's city officials is that they disagree so fundamentally on school busing that they dare not try to take a stand on it as a group.

As court-ordered busing to achieve racial integration emerged as a volatile issue in the 1970's, both the National League of Cities and its sister organization, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, avoided in each year, including this one, issuing any policy statement on school busing as a desegregation tool.

The league represents 15,000 cities and the conference speaks for those cities with more than 30,000 residents.

At the Conference of Mayors meeting last July in Boston, the city executives said not a word about busing even though 30 floors above them in the same hotel, 100 antibusing demonstrators led by Louise Day Hicks seized Mayor Kevin White's suite for most of a day. They also ignored antibusing protesters who marched and chanted outside the hotel during most of the conference.

The education policy drafted by the league at its convention here this week says only that disruptions brought about by desegregation attempts should be the concern of school officials and the business community as well as of school boards. It does not mention either "mayors" or "busing." At most meetings of urban officials, proponents of

either probusing or antibusing resolutions are deflected or dissuaded by their colleagues either in closed-door sessions or in committee meetings.

At this week's league convention, both Democratic and Republican caucuses declined to adopt resolutions explicitly discussing busing despite efforts to do so in both groups.

Many city officials have said over

the last six years that they shouldn't get involved because it is an issue for independent school boards, whether elected or appointed.

Others, most of whom will speak only off the record, admit that the city officials are doubtful they could reach any compromise position and are convinced that an effort to do so could consume most of their time at their annual convention if the issue

were taken up in debate.

On Tuesday, a group of Republicans from the Texas Municipal League sought to have the Republican mayors caucus go on record against court-ordered busing and take that position to the league's policy-making committees. But the GOP mayors declined to do so.

Mayor Richard King of Independence, Mo., speaking for the GOP caucus, told reporters, "A most negative busing resolution was introduced and referred to our executive committee for study. We felt we should have an affirmative position."

King came as close as any mayor ever has in public to reflecting the private reasons why most city officials avoid debates on busing at mayors conferences. He said, "We decided not to take a position on an inflammatory issue without a good deal of study and not to introduce an emotional issue into the convention when it's not the most important issue for cities but would dominate the conference if introduced."

approximately \$3.8 million during the 1975 fiscal year to pick up litter discarded by careless motorists.

The department is noted for the beautification of its safety rest areas, roadside plantings of native plants and wild flowers.

A continuing education program is maintained by the department to enlist public support for improving the quality of life for Texans with emphasis toward controlling litter.

## Litter program receives award

The Texas State Department of Highways and Public Transportation (DHT) has won the highest award for its 1975 highway litter program from the Federal Highway Administration, Keep America Beautiful Inc. (KAB).

Roger W. Powers, KAB president, said the award will be presented Friday at the annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

The highway department spent

## Prisoners give \$1,200 to Fund

Inmates serving time at the main "Walls" Unit of the Texas Department of Corrections in Huntsville donated \$1,200 to the Walker County United Fund last week.

The funds were raised among the 1,900 men in the unit through various special activities and sales during October and November.

The activities were organized by the Inmate Welfare Club.

Inmates were allowed to purchase items such as fresh fruit, photo albums, air fresheners, soft drinks and fried chicken with profits going to the United Fund.

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## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

The Freshman Class Council will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in room 701 in Rudder Tower.

Omega Phi Alpha will meet Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in room 410 in Rudder Tower.

The A&M Skeeet and Trap Club will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in room 139 in the MSC.

The Society of American Engineers will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in room 207 in the Harrington Center.

The Texas A&M Motorcycle Club will meet Wednesday at 7:45 p.m. in room 501 in Rudder Tower.

The El Paso HTC will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in room 130 in the MSC.

The Kingsville HTC will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in room 401 in Rudder Tower.

The MSC Council Executive Committee will meet Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the MSC.

The Spiritual Awareness and Meditation will meet Wednesday at 7 p.m. in room 504 in Rudder Tower.

The Bridge Committee will meet Wednesday at 7 p.m. in room 228 in the MSC.

PSI CHI will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in room 229 in the MSC.

The Student Chapter Association of General Contractors will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in room 301 in Rudder Tower.

The Pre-Law Society will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in room 510 in Rudder Tower.

The Young Republicans will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in room 607 in Rudder Tower.



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