donorable John C. Danforth United States beneto 20510

PREST BRUGELIE GANSOCENE

to corner Attorney General Civiletti concerning a Washington cost attorney General Civiletti concerning a Washington cost atticle which reported that the Department of Justice was considering the initiation of metropolitan school desegranation suits in 50. Louis and Kansas City, Nissouri. Please excuse our relay in responding to your letter.

tion which has begun the process of remedying the unconstitution which has begun the process of remedying the unconstitutional suggestation of the St. Douis school system since 1977, when we intervened at the request of the court. The system is now operating under a court-approved desegregation plan developed by the district itself, agreed to by this Department, and approved by the Court of Appeals for the Cighth Circuit. The district court also ordered the development of a voluntary metropolitan plan, a measure also approved by the court of appeals, but has already rejected the first such proposal developed by the State of Hispouri and Sirected it to submit another plan. The Hoard of Chucation of the City of St. Louis filed pleadings on January 9, 1981 to transform the present city-only case into a metropolitan acceptogation case. This Department is presently considering its position regarding these issues.

with regard to kanses city, that school system is operating under a desegregation plan which it developed and implemented subsequent to administrative proceedings with the Department of 131th, Education, and Welfers. We is the case in St. Louis, the Cansas City school system itself his also initiated detropolitan method desegregation litigation, and that case is now pending detore the federal district court. This Department has not determined whether we should seek to become a party to that titigation, but we do presently regresent several federal agencies named as defendants therein.

cc: OLA Records Dougherty Roberts

Chrono

Mr. John Wilson

Inome you for anaring your views on these matters with as, and please do not hesitate to consect as again if you have any further questions.

Sincerdia,

James 7. Turnor Acting Assistant Storney Ceneral Civil Rights Sivision

- B. LONG, LA. CHAIRMAN

MICHAEL STERN, STAFF DIRECTOR ROBERT E. LIGHTHIZER, CHIEF MINORITY COUNSEL

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United States Seriate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

January 5, 1981

6018

Honorable Benjamin J. Civiletti Attorney General 5111 Justice Building Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Civiletti:

I was alarmed to read in the Washington Post on Thursday, January 1, that the Department of Justice is considering filing new school desegregation suits in the next few weeks in order to force metropolitan-wide busing of schoolchildren in St. Louis and Kansas City. I strongly urge you not to approve these proposed suits.

Both the St. Louis and Kansas City school districts are under court order now. In St. Louis, the parties have been asked to submit a voluntary plan by February 2. I believe that new lawsuits by the Justice Department will be counterproductive, exacerbating tensions and taking attention away from constructing a voluntary approach.

Please let me know of your decision in this matter.

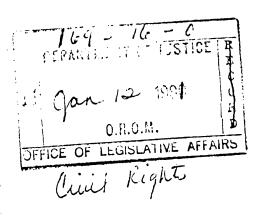
Sincerely,

John C. Danforth

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13 MAR 1981

Homorable William S. Broomfield House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Broomfield:

The Assistant Attorney General for Legislative Affairs has referred to me your letter of February 18, 1981, inquiring about the status of United States v. City of Birmingham, Michigan. Please excuse the delay in my reply.

On March 7, 1980, the United States filed suit against the City of Birmingham alleging a pattern or practice of racial discrimination in violation of the Fair Housing Act of 1968. A copy of the complaint in this case is enclosed herewith. The parties in this case are currently engaged in the closing weeks of discovery, and as yet no trial date has been set. The Department of Justice is continuing to pursue this litigation in accordance with its responsibilities to enforce compliance with the Fair Housing Act.

I hope that this information is responsive to your request, and that you will feel free to call on me if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

James P. Turner Acting Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division

Enclosure:

cc: Records Chrono OLA Field

Roberts

1 S. BROOMFIELD

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SUITE 2306
H HOUSE OFFICE BULLDING

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30 NORTH WOODWAR D
INGHAM, MICHIGAN 48011
PHONE: 642-3800

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

February 18, 1981

COMMITTEES:
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

SMALL BUSINESS



The Assistant Attorney General for Legislative Affairs
Department of Justice
Main Justice Building, Room 1603
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Sir:

With the change in Administrations, I have received several inquiries as to the status of the Department of Justice's housing discrimination suit against the City of Birmingham, Michigan.

Any information you could provide regarding this matter would be appreciated.

Thank you for your attention and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

William S. Broomfield Member of Congress

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE B B 11 Feb 19 1981 G O.R.O.M. B DEFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS