

Rights Bill 'Sleeper' Aids De Facto Segregation

Lets White Pupils Stay Near Home

Desegregation By Assignment Not Required In Bill

WASHINGTON—White children in great cities such as New York and Chicago will get a "civil right" of their own if the bill now awaiting Senate action is not amended. The proposed right is the right to attend their own neighborhood grammar school.

Some civil rights organizations in great urban centers now are demanding an end to what is known as racial imbalance in grammar schools. This imbalance comes about because of housing patterns.

THERE ARE large residential areas in New York, Washington, D. C., and Chicago, for example, which are all or almost all Negro. Therefore, enrollment in neighborhood grammar schools also is largely Negro.

New York City has been the centerpiece of clamor against this so-called de facto segregation. There has been one student-teacher strike and another is contemplated.

GROUPS IN New York and Chicago have mounted formidable campaigns against school administrators. They seek to drive some of the administrators out of office.

To correct racial imbalance or de facto segregation, some civil rights leaders demand that busloads of white children be transported daily from their own all-white schools to attend more distant all-Negro schools. The opposition to this has been considerable.

COMES NOW the Congress with legislation totally rejecting this method of combatting racial segregation in the schools. Title IV of the pending civil rights bill relates to desegregation in public education.

Section 401, Paragraph B states, in part that: "—Desegregation shall not mean the assignment of students to

public schools in order to overcome racial imbalance."

THIS IS AN invitation to embattled public school administrators to stand fast against attempts to compel the transportation of children to public schools away from their neighborhoods.

Likewise, the section excuses the Justice Department from all legal activity in behalf of those who seek such transport of school children.