

May 18, 1964

Washington: Bill Higgs

The following is the substance of the Kennedy-Dirksen compromise CR bill which will most likely be released to the press tomorrow or the day after:

RRRRRR

Voting Rights: very few changes but those that were made were helpful. There is no change in the three judge court.

Public Accommodations: two types of cases are assumed- one in which an individual files a complain and one in which the attorney general files because of a pattern of discrimination. The individual must wait for 90 day periods (often as much as six months). When the attorney general files it is ~~up~~ up to him ~~RRRRRR~~ to decide if there is discrimination - he does not need to go into court. He can then go in and ask for a three judge court. He can file for a whole county or the whole state with direct appeal to the supreme court. Higgs feels that this should help re enforcement.

Title 3: little changes (integration of public facilities)

Title 4: public schools: minor changes, one or two which help; four or five which are restricting.

Civil Rights Commission: strikes out the provision about election frauds- Higgs ~~RRRRRR~~ says this was geared toward the '60 election in Chicago and that it probably won't matter).

Title 5: cut off of federal funds: this is made more specific. An entire state cannot be cut off, but a particular program in a particular place can. More pressure is put on the President to act.

Equal Employment: there is a loophole in the beginning. ^{Re} The number of employees. The provision covers businesses with as few as 25 employees, but they must have been working for over 20 weeks for five days a week before they come within the provision. ~~RRRRRRRRRRRR~~ (Higgs thinks that this is not too bad)

Further, they have added the word ~~RRRR~~ 'Intentionally'-- that is, intentional ~~RRRRRR~~ discrimination in hiring or employment. Higgs doesn't think this will hurt too much because it's a civil not a criminal statute.

A three judge court has been added here too. When a ~~RRRRRRRR~~ pattern of practice is found a three judge court can be used on a county or state wide decision. Here again the attorney general decided whether the practice exists.

Higgs feels that this version is even better than the first. It's directed more toward the south and is designed to bring quick massive relief.

The removal statute has not been touched. ✓