

The Region

\$1.4-Million Bias Case Settlement OK'd

The state Assembly ratified the payment of nearly \$1.4 million to settle the 5-year-old case of a former teacher of mentally ill students at Camarillo State Hospital who alleged that she was fired because of racial discrimination. By a 75-0 vote, the Assembly approved the measure by Sen. Diane Watson (D-Los Angeles) to settle the suit with the teacher, Betty Andrews of Los Angeles. The bill, previously approved by the Senate, now goes to Gov. George Deukmejian for his consideration. Jeffrey Fuller, a deputy attorney general, labeled the settlement "extremely good" for the state, citing a federal court jury decision last November awarding Andrews \$2.5 million. Andrews, who is black, was fired in September, 1982, for 15 incidents of alleged misconduct, such as not reporting a student's theft of a candy bar. According to a Senate analysis of the bill, the jury determined that the charges were not based on fact and that Andrews' supervisor had engaged in acts and made statements which showed a pattern of racial prejudice.

When petitioned by Lofton, Jr., et al (9-14-87) for responsible action in our behalf our elected office holders reply or response is, one or another or both, if the elected office holder responds:

1. A threat and/or irresponsible referral.
2. Petition is lengthy, unwieldy, and/or unclear as to what is expected.
3. Not your elected official.
4. Usually no reply or response by the elected official.

Newsmakers (Los Angeles Times, 9-11-87)

'Bill Takes Note of Herman Plight

—His plight shocked the many who revere Woody Herman as one of the greats on the American jazz scene. When it was reported that the ailing former bandleader and clarinetist was to be evicted from his Hollywood Hills home for nonpayment of rent, offers of help from celebrities and fans came pouring in. Now a U.S. representative, Democrat John Conyers Jr. of Michigan, is planning to introduce a bill in Congress next week that would wipe out Herman's \$1.6-million tax debt. Herman's case, Conyers said, "is important because it symbolizes the tawdry treatment given to jazz musicians in this country. This legislation will correct an injustice and help to ensure that Woody Herman lives his remaining years with dignity and respect." Herman, who is bedridden with emphysema and heart problems, is "a little bit tired but feeling very happy and encouraged by what's going on," said his daughter, Ingrid Herman Reese. "It's the best I've seen him feel in weeks."

etc., etc., always something....negative

By

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