

## Transfers Of Retarded Postponed

A transfer of 60 retarded patients from the Willowbrook State School on Staten Island to the Suffolk State School in South Huntington was postponed yesterday after it was learned a group of parents were expected to block the bus as it entered the Suffolk grounds.

Richard Capobianco of Northport, spokesman for the parents' organization at the Suffolk school, said: "The legislature is playing games with our sick children. This is part of the budget cutback and when they take 60 more children in they have to open new wards and staff them with employes taken away from the children already there."

Capobianco said the parents, belonging to the Society for Goodwill to Children, planned to blockade all three gates of the school—Old Country Road, Carman Road and Half Hollow Hill Road—which ever one the bus arrived at.

"THIS IS nothing against the Willowbrook children," he said. "They will suffer too if they come where the staff has to be spread so thin."

Statewide concern over transfer of patients from one state school to another also resulted yesterday in a court order forbidding transfers from Gouverneur State School in Manhattan to Willowbrook.

At Willowbrook, director Jack Hammond said the transfer of patients to Suffolk was postponed because of the parent protest. But Dr. John Gibbon, the Suffolk State School director, said he understood the court order was responsible for changing the plans.

Manhattan Supreme Court Justice Samuel Spiegel granted the stay to parents of the Gouverneur children, a spokesman said.

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DR. GIBBON said the plan had been to transfer 15 children daily to Suffolk until 60 had arrived.

Parents say they are concerned that the layoffs and cutbacks in state mental hygiene care will leave too few persons to take care of the retarded children.