

Transfer of Retarded Children Canceled

Because of negative reaction from parents, staff members and the local and regional directors of the State Department of Mental Hygiene, Gov. Wilson agreed yesterday afternoon to rescind an order he issued Wednesday that 48 retarded children be moved "immediately" from one temporary facility on Wards Island to another, according to Dr. Stuart Keill, the regional director.

The governor had ordered the move because he believed parents were upset over crowded conditions at the Keener unit, where the children had been moved one month ago because a gasoline leak forced their evacuation from their regular home, the Sheridan unit, at 75 Morton St. in Manhattan. But parents and staff convinced Dr. Keill that moving the children to the Manhattan Children's Psychiatric Center would be worse than not moving them from Keener at all, he said.