

tice plans since the 1959 data. Nothing in any of the medical journals or in anything we have surveyed would indicate that there has been any change in this situation since 1959.

Mr. ASHLEY. Mr. Brownstein, what do you think about this?

Mr. BROWNSTEIN. Well, I believe, Mr. Ashley, that there is a need for financing these facilities.

Mr. ASHLEY. Based on what, now?

Mr. BROWNSTEIN. Well, based on the obvious conclusions that have been pointed out here.

Mr. ASHLEY. The obvious conclusions?

Mr. BROWNSTEIN. Yes, I think so. Having a son currently in medical school, Mr. Ashley, I am very sympathetic to this.

Mr. ASHLEY. You have answered my question, Mr. Brownstein. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Moorhead?

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Brownstein, would not it be a reasonable thing for this Congress to pass this bill without title II, the direct loan program, and then after a couple of years see if there are these gaps in certain areas, and see if there is a need that has not yet been demonstrated for a direct loan program?

Mr. BROWNSTEIN. Of course, this is entirely up to the Congress, Mr. Moorhead. If this is what Congress provides, obviously, we will do everything we can to get the private market interested in this kind of financing and make the program succeed.

Mr. MOORHEAD. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Stephens?

Mr. STEPHENS. Is it contemplated that the need for the clinic be made in connection with office accommodations for the doctors?

Mr. BROWNSTEIN. This would be a clinical type facility.

Mr. STEPHENS. What is the attitude of the various medical associations in respect to the proposals that have been made here? Do you have any expression of the opinions of the American Medical Association, or the State medical associations?

Dr. LEE. The AMA several years ago did a study of group practice in general. Prior to that time, they had in general been opposed to the development of group practice. Since that study, which was headed by one of their former presidents, Dr. Larson of North Dakota, they have had a neutral stand regarding the development of group practice. With respect to this specific legislation, I think that the AMA would be opposed to this specific legislation.

Mr. STEPHENS. Why would they be opposed to this specific legislation?

Dr. LEE. I think you would have to ask the AMA that direct question.

Mr. STEPHENS. The observation that I have of the group facilities that have been put together in my home town is that they have been quite an asset to the people of my community. A number of doctors have gone together, they have borrowed the money, and they have built offices and joint facilities to accommodate them. And they can give you in their centers there almost any kind of diagnostic assistance that you need. And I think that the development of that type of thing is very fine. They are all individuals. They have no partnership in building ownership. And I would assume that you would not