

essence, therefore, it provides for Federal Government participation in financing physicians' offices. We know of no justification for the Federal Government to undertake assistance for construction of physicians' offices and believe that the normal channels of private financing should meet adequately the need for such proprietary facilities.

The program of the Small Business Administration does provide short-term loans for such proprietary facilities at what amounts to regular commercial interest rates. To the extent that any Federal Government assistance is needed for the provision of proprietary group practice facilities, this program should meet that need.

Assistance by the Federal Government limited to nonprofit group health facilities may well have merit. In this regard, however, we believe it is most essential that the legislation be amended so as to assure that major diagnostic facilities developed in connection with group practice endeavors do not duplicate unnecessarily such facilities which are already available in community hospitals. The Federal Government has assisted in the provision of essential major diagnostic facilities in hospitals through the Hill-Burton and Hill-Harris programs. We believe it would be unwise and wasteful for the Federal Government to participate in duplication of such facilities as may be possible under the present provisions of H.R. 9256.

The shortages of health personnel are at present so acute that we believe it is incumbent upon the Federal Government and all others concerned with the development of health care programs to insure the most economic use of health personnel. Any unnecessary duplication of major diagnostic facilities will tend to further aggravate the shortages of critically needed health personnel. Although the bill does provide that the Commissioner shall consult with the Surgeon General before prescribing regulations, we feel that the possibilities of wasteful duplication in this program are so great that they should be guarded against by statute.

We would appreciate your making this letter a part of the record of the hearings on this bill.

Sincerely yours,

KENNETH WILLIAMSON,
Associate Director.

Mr. BARRETT. The next witness this morning will be Dr. John B. Wilson, chairman, Council on Legislation, representing the American Dental Association.

Dr. Wilson, we are glad to have you and your associate here this morning. I would like to extend to you the same courtesies that we have all the other witnesses and we do hope that you will feel at home here. I was wondering if you would be kind enough, before you start your statement to introduce your associate for the record.

Dr. WILSON. I have it in the statement.

Mr. BARRETT. If you wish to complete your statement first you may do so and then we may ask you one or two questions at the end of your statement. If that is agreeable you may proceed.

**STATEMENT OF DR. JOHN B. WILSON, CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL ON
LEGISLATION, REPRESENTING THE AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCI-
ATION; ACCOMPANIED BY B. J. CONWAY, CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER,
AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION**

Dr. WILSON. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Dr. John B. Wilson of San Marino, Calif. In addition to maintaining a dental practice, I am chairman of the Council on Legislation of the American Dental Association. I am here today representing that organization. With me is Mr. Bernard J. Conway, chief legal officer of the association. We are grateful for this opportunity to appear and present the views of the dental profession on this matter.