14050 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

PREPARED STATEMENTS

STATEMENT BY
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BEFORE SUBCOMMITTEE ON MONOPOLY
SENATE SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE
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Edward Saltzman and I are pleased to be here to answer your question about our contribution to medical education. We contribute through two separate corporations with one common objective — improving the quality and cost of patient care through meaningful education. The Health Learning Systems corporation achieves this objective by providing continuing medical education for physicians, interns, nurses, and other allied health professionals; and the HLS Press corporation, through health education directly for the patient. We will concentrate today on Health Learning Systems.

The primary reason for our existence is to help translate medical research findings from branches of the National Institutes of Health and university based medical centers to improved patient care. The need is based upon the fact that new research findings reportedly double every seven to ten years, and affect numerous aspects of prevention, diagnosis, management, and rehabilitation of disease. More importantly, these findings are not adequately reaching the practicing physician for clinical application with the patient. This concern is well recognized by the Congress in its direction to the National Institutes of Health.

To effect change, there is a need for continuing medical education through improved communication techniques. The need for continuing medical educa-