

Senator NELSON. Doctor, you may proceed to present your statement in any fashion you see fit, either reading it or if at any time you wish to extemporize on any aspect of your statement, you are certainly free to do so. Your statement will be printed in full in the record as well as whatever extemporaneous remarks you make.

I trust you have no objection that if a question occurs to us from time to time during the course of your statement, we ask it.

Dr. HAGOOD. No, sir.

Senator NELSON. Thank you, Dr. Hagood. We appreciate your taking time from your busy practice to make your contribution toward these hearings we have been conducting for almost 2 years now.

**STATEMENT OF DR. WILLIAM J. HAGOOD, JR., PRIVATE PHYSICIAN,
LITTLE RETREAT CLINIC, CLOVER, VA.**

Dr. HAGOOD. Thank you, Senator Nelson and Senator McIntyre. I appreciate very much the opportunity of you letting me appear before your subcommittee, and also I wish to thank you again for letting me change the date because of a conflict in schedule.

I would like the record to state that I am appearing as a private citizen. This statement I make this morning is my own. I do not represent any organization. I do not own any stock in any drug company. In fact I am not beholden to any drug company in any manner at all.

I am William J. Hagood, Jr., M.D., of Clover, Va. I am a general practitioner, and while there are some people who would like to believe that the GP has no business in the airy goings-on of political Washington, I think to the contrary we have something very important to contribute. I am grateful to you for letting me come, and I earnestly hope my being here will be helpful.

I said I live in Clover. You can get there from here by going south 100 miles to Richmond, the site of the Medical College of Virginia. That is where I got my academic medical education the same years a certain nurse trained there who later married the distinguished chairman of this committee. From Richmond you turn south and west on Route 360 for another 100 miles; there you'll find Clover, a tobacco farming community, near Danville, in south-central Virginia. In Clover my uncle, Dr. J. D. Hagood, started the Little Retreat Clinic that has served that farming community for over four decades. I've been in practice there 23 years and now operate the clinic with my cousin, Dr. Warren C. Hagood, who has been there 15 years.

We are, as I guess the foregoing suggests, small operators, if you compare us with some of the larger institutions that have presented their testimony here previously. We are professionals who continually strive to give the public in our area the best in medical care using as aids to accomplish this these two things—continuing education and the best of physical facilities.

Our clinic is completely equipped for the type of service Warren and I wish to offer the public, and that is comprehensive and continuing medical care. We have modern X-ray equipment that we use carefully and regularly. We have a laboratory sufficient and adequate for our needs. My associate and I daily stake our reputations on the results handed us by our laboratory technician. She does blood counts, throat and urine cultures, cholesterol and uric acid levels, et cetera. Warren and I have over 150 diabetics in our practice and this techni-