

As you know, this Foundation participates primarily in activity associated with alcoholism. We support the activities of all the major organizations at work in this field.

I have read with much interest the provisions of Title III, Part A of HR-15758, to be known as the Alcoholic Rehabilitation Act of 1968. In my judgment, it is an excellent piece of legislation which, when passed and adequately funded, will provide much needed Federal assistance to the states and communities. Because of the humane and progressive decisions of the courts in recent years to the effect that late stage alcoholics should be treated as sick people and not as criminals, the states and municipalities must now prepare to meet the needs in treating large numbers of persons found by the courts to be suffering from alcoholism. The size of this problem and the urgency for new facilities and trained personnel make it impossible for the states and cities to meet their needs adequately without significant Federal assistance. The enactment of Title III, Part A of HR-15758 will provide the kind of Federal assistance necessary in a most commendable way.

Sincerely yours,

R. BRINKLEY SMITHERS, *President.*

ALCOHOLISM COUNCIL OF PALM BEACH COUNTY,

Lantana, Fla., March 22, 1968.

Congressman PAUL G. ROGERS,
*Harvey Building,
West Palm Beach, Fla.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ROGERS: Your endorsement of Bill U.S. H.R. #15758, Title 3, Part A would be greatly appreciated.

It is our feeling that this legislation would be extremely helpful in rehabilitating the 12,000 alcoholics in Palm Beach County.

Sincerely,

RICHARD A. CONLIN, *Chairman.*

TAMPA, FLA., *March 20, 1968.*

Congressman PAUL G. ROGERS,
*House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ROGERS: We have just started our Florida Regional Medical Program and not too many physicians are yet aware of its great potential for improving the quality and efficiency of medical care through improvements in communications and in continuing medical education.

The Regional Medical Programs must develop into ongoing operational projects and therefore the administrations bill to extend and slightly modify Regional Medical Programs is highly desirable. This is the type of congressional legislation the physician in practice and in education will favor.

Cordially yours,

H. PHILLIP HAMPTON, M.D.

GATEWAY COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM,

Ketchikan, Alaska, April 24, 1968.

The CHAIRMAN,
Subcommittee on Public Health and Welfare, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I have recently received a publication from the North American Association of Alcoholism Program outlining the hearings of March 26-28 on HR-15758. I was not present to represent the Ketchikan Gateway Council on Alcoholism during those hearings, but would nevertheless wish to voice our opinion of that bill; especially the section Title III Part A, known as the "Alcoholic Rehabilitation Act of 1968".

Under the Alcoholic Rehabilitation Act of 1968 we understand that alcoholic facilities and programs will be tied directly with the existing mental health centers of each state. And that provisions for receiving aid for construction, staffing, and specialized facilities will be requisited by this direct tie with the mental health centers.