

We realize that there does need to be close coordination with the mental health offices so that an integrated state program can be as effective as possible. However the situation within each state varies so widely that in our opinion such a tie should be left at the discretion of each individual state. That the states that do not wish to tie their alcoholic programs with the mental health centers should not be discriminated against for enacting said tie provisions.

It is our opinion that states like Alaska which have very limited mental health centers and even fewer alcoholic rehabilitation programs would be adversely affected although they would be the ones in need of the services as outlined in H.R. 15758. The testimony before the Committee as related by this letter therefore is spoken against the alcoholic propositions of the said bill. We propose instead that some individual state discretion should be allowed so that an alcoholic rehabilitation program can be as flexible as our varied conditions demand and able to serve the best interests of the people.

Sincerely,

STEVE CLARK, *Chairman.*

(Whereupon, at 12 noon the subcommittee was adjourned.)

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