

Mr. SISK. Under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, what is the relative difference in handling by and between residents of the District and those that are residents of Virginia or Maryland in District of Columbia hospitals?

Dr. GRANT. There is no difference. They would be eligible for admission to hospitals in Washington as has been true previously.

Mr. SISK. You mention the need for nursing home care. It is my understanding, in talking to some people in the past few weeks, that there is a great need in the District for so-called intermediate care or nursing home care. Is that the area in which you find the greatest need?

Dr. GRANT. Yes, sir, I think this is the greatest need and I think it will rise both as the result of the Medicaid program and also because our population in the area is increasingly becoming older. This is true, of course, of the Nation as a whole, and I think the need for facilities to take care of middle and old age people will continue to rise.

Mr. SISK. What percentage of the proposed funds that would be made available under this legislation, along with matching funds made available by the District, would be used for intermediate or nursing home care beds as compared to M & S beds?

Dr. GRANT. It is difficult to answer that, but I would say that obviously the allocation of these funds would have to be in consonance with our State plans for hospital construction, and in those plans we take into consideration some of the factors presently under discussion along with many others.

Mr. SISK. How far along are you on the planning with reference to the new proposed Children's Hospital here in the District? You made a reference to that. Unfortunately, I can't pinpoint it, but I think some \$40 million is proposed in that plan, is that right?

Dr. GRANT. We believe that this is roughly the kind of figure we would be talking about, yes, sir.

Mr. SISK. As you understand, the bills as presently written do not authorize money to meet that need?

Dr. GRANT. I would suggest that the way both of these bills are written at the present time leaves this question up for interpretation, and I think it would be possible, the way they are currently worded, to have an interpretation that funds were not available for these purposes, because the bills indicate clearly the funds would be available only for modernization of hospitals and other medical facilities, and I think that could be construed that if a new hospital were to be built there would be some question as to whether that would come under the provisions of the bills as presently worded. I would suggest an amendment would be in order so that it would not be subject to that interpretation.

Mr. SISK. Is it your feeling that if the bills were passed with an amendment raising it to \$40 million-plus that such an amendment would make it possible for funds to be used in new hospital construction, and would these funds, combined with such other funds that may be available from the District of Columbia in the way of matching funds, make it possible for the construction of that Children's Hospital?

Dr. GRANT. Under the circumstances you cite these funds would be available and could be disbursed to Children's Hospital in order to