

The day-care center that I first mentioned—where a project had been approved and funds were frozen—not many dollars were involved.

Yet, in my judgment, in the area of the mentally retarded, anything we can do is a worthwhile project. I am a complete liberal as far as that is concerned.

I wish you would check into that for me. I have been in contact with Dr. Cavanaugh, who has been very cooperative, but now the funds have been frozen. I think this is a tragic situation.

Dr. LEE. We will check on that specific project today and give you a report this afternoon and let you know what the status is.

Mr. NELSEN. Thank you very much. I hope that it will be rehabilitated. Thank you.

Mr. JARMAN. Dr. Lee, and gentlemen, we think a good start has been made in the hearings in your presentation of these programs, which are of such great importance and scope.

A number of questions have been raised and information requested, and we will appreciate having that. Then, after witnesses have been heard on various aspects of the bill, it may be that we will ask you to come back for additional clarification and discussion.

Thank you very much.

Dr. LEE. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. JARMAN. We have as our next witness our colleague from New York, Congressman Rosenthal.

STATEMENT OF HON. BENJAMIN S. ROSENTHAL, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to appear. I know the hour is late, and I shall be reasonably brief.

I have been concerned for some time with the need for increased attention to the quality of our Nation's medical care system. As a member of the Government Operations Committee, and its Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations, I have followed with great attention the operations of the Public Health Service and the National Institutes of Health and their responsibilities for improving medical care services.

The passage of Public Law 89-751, the Allied Health Professions Personnel Act of 1966, offered an excellent opportunity for the Public Health Service both to respond to the considerable innovation evident within American medicine on health manpower and to stimulate additional innovation.

A careful study of the operation of this legislation during its first 18 months indicates to me that there has been little response and even less stimulation in these fields by the Public Health Service.

I was pleased, therefore, that the President's health message considered the need to improve Public Law 89-751 by expanding the scope of Section 794: New Methods. I regret that the improvements suggested are limited, however, to that section and do not take sufficient account of the need for more responsibility within the Public Health Service for encouraging the innovation so badly needed—and so well recognized elsewhere in the President's health message—in promoting new approaches to medical care.