

Our next witness this morning is Dr. William A. Sodeman, a member of the executive committee on medical education for the American Medical Association.

STATEMENT OF DR. WILLIAM A. SODEMAN, MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL EDUCATION, AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION; ACCOMPANIED BY DR. C. H. WILLIAM RUHE, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF MEDICAL EDUCATION; AND HARRY N. PETERSON, ATTORNEY, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT, AMA

Mr. JARMAN. Dr. Sodeman. Doctor, if you would introduce your associates this morning.

Dr. SODEMAN. Thank you, Mr. Jarman. Mr. Chairman, members of the subcommittee, I am William Sodeman, a physician and formerly dean of the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Pa. I am scientific director of the Life Insurance Medical Research Fund, Rosemont, Pa. I also serve as a member of the AMA Council on Medical Education. Seated with me to provide additional information as may be requested are Dr. C. H. William Ruhe, on my left, director of the division of medical education, and Mr. Harry N. Peterson, an attorney of the AMA's legislative department on my right.

We are pleased to have this opportunity of presenting the American Medical Association's comments on H.R. 15757, the Health Manpower Act of 1968.

In August, 1963, the American Medical Association, in testimony presented on legislation before the Congress, urged priority for the increase and improvement in the physical facilities available for medical education. We then expressed the belief that there was need for assistance in the construction of new medical schools and for expansion and replacement of the facilities of existing medical schools. As a result of that legislation and the ongoing efforts of the American Medical Association and the American Medical Colleges to encourage the development of new schools and the expansion of existing schools, 17 new medical schools are now officially classed by the liaison committee of the two associations as "in development". Further, the number of first-year students in all American medical schools has increased from 8,298 in 1960 to 8,964 in 1966 and is expected to increase to 10,200 by 1970.

As encouraging as these results may be, the urgent need for more physicians still exists. Recently, in a March 5, 1968, joint statement on health manpower, the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges said, "to meet national expectations for health services, the enrollment of our Nation's medical schools must be substantially increased." Both associations have endorsed the policy that all medical schools should now accept as a goal the expansion of their collective enrollments to a level that will permit all qualified applicants to be admitted. To achieve expanded enrollment, it will be necessary to have increased financial support from both Government and private sources for the construction of additional facilities at existing schools and to create new schools. Equally important is increased support for the operational