

curriculum. All of the veterinary schools must then constantly engage in the new curriculum development to endeavor to provide the most effective education for our students. Equally we must make a strong effort to provide continuing education for those already graduated to compensate for the short "half life" of their education. Simply put, then, our veterinary schools have an almost impossible task ahead in the face of inadequate resources of veterinary medical manpower and funds to do the multiplicity of responsibilities that are ours.

We urge your favorable consideration of our request to restore to the proposed legislation Basic Improvement Grants for Veterinary Medicine. Tuskegee Institute strongly supports the inclusion and urgently needs your assistance.

STATEMENT OF JAMES E. GREENE, D.V.M., DEAN, SCHOOL OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE, AUBURN UNIVERSITY

I am Dr. James E. Greene, dean of the school of veterinary medicine at Auburn University, Alabama, and a member of the Executive Board of the American Veterinary Medical Association. It is the wish of the American Veterinary Medical Association to express strong support for the passage of H.R. 15757 introduced by Rep. Staggers, and entitled "Medical Manpower Act of 1968." In expressing our support for the Act, however, we urge the Committee to amend the bill to include veterinary medical colleges under the provision authorizing institutional grants for the operation of health professions schools.

Such an amendment would assure that the Act will serve to the fullest possible extent the nation's growing needs for health services. The numerous responsibilities modern veterinary medicine has assumed in the areas of biomedical research and public health require long-range funding for research, instructional programs, and efficient administration in colleges of veterinary medicine. The colleges of veterinary medicine, in common with the colleges of medicine, dentistry, osteopathy, optometry, and podiatry, need assistance in the over-all administration of expanding educational programs.

Veterinary medicine is a health profession concerned with the health and welfare of animals and man alike. Not only are veterinarians actively engaged in diagnosis, treatment and control of a broad spectrum of diseases among many species of animals, but they are also key members in the nation's medical, public health, research, and military teams.

Veterinarians are responsible for protecting a \$41 billion national investment in livestock. They protect the health of the public against some 100 diseases transmissible to man from both farm and companion animals, and they safeguard the wholesomeness of meat and meat products, poultry, and milk and milk products. At U.S. ports of entry they prevent the introduction of animal diseases from foreign countries and enforce health regulations in inter-state and intrastate traffic in animals and animal products.

At numerous research institutions, both governmental and private, veterinarians contribute to the advances in bio-medical and comparative medical research. They are engaged in the care of experimental animals used in medical research and are responsible for the interpretation and application to man of findings obtained from animal research studies. They also participate in the development and testing of biological products for both animals and man.

Veterinarians in the Armed Forces serve as public health officials for troops at home and overseas. They supervise inspection of food prepared and served to troops at home and abroad, and are engaged in research studies of bacteriological warfare, effects of excessive radiation and radioactive fallout, effects of space flight on living beings, diet development for astronauts, and space food packaging.

Veterinary medicine is a decidedly consumer-oriented health profession. In 1966, Congress passed the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act (Public Law 89-544) and in 1967, the Wholesome Meat Act (Public Law 90-201). Now the 90th Congress is considering bills pertaining to the inspection of poultry and poultry meat products.

The implementation of all of these legislative measures, in their initial stages alone, will require the participation of hundreds of veterinarians, placing additional heavy demands on veterinary medical manpower at a time when there exists already a critical shortage of veterinarians in all fields.

In 1961 the Senate Committee on Government Operations estimated that the nation faces a shortage of 15,000 veterinarians by 1980 when 44,000 veterinari-