

2. Provision of adequate numbers of veterinarians, appropriately trained, for fundamental and applied research in comparative aspects of medical and health sciences.

3. Provision of adequate numbers of veterinarians, appropriately trained, for research and practice in laboratory animal medicine.

4. Provision of special training for veterinarians to augment the medical manpower required for care in event of national or regional disasters.

5. Provisions of more and better-oriented veterinarians to meet the public demand for care of agricultural and pet animals through more efficient and innovative techniques of providing mass animal health care.

Note that the concern is not only for more veterinarians—but for veterinarians with advanced or specialized skills.

To meet these and corollary needs, I believe it is greatly in the public interest that the federal government should give strong support to:

1. The establishment of new veterinary schools, particularly in environments where they can develop fundamental medical science programs of great merit.

2. The establishment and further development of graduate level training in the basic veterinary medical sciences.

3. The support of veterinary professional studies and the support of veterinary graduate studies in health and medical sciences by increased loan and scholarship support.

4. The provision of teaching and research facilities in medical sciences, at veterinary colleges, with greatly decreased requirements for matching funds.

5. The development of centers of excellence in important, specialized areas of veterinary medical sciences in veterinary colleges which by virtue of staff development or location have developed unusual potentials.

6. The development of a program for integration of the veterinary medical profession into the emergency medical care activities of the nation in disaster situations.

7. A determined effort for greater incorporation of veterinarians and veterinary scientists in the service and research activities of the federal government wherever the professional talents or special proclivities of veterinarians can be utilized profitably.

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Specialization in the practice of medicine has obscured the fact that there is but one medicine, whether it be studied in man or in animals, as modern research is generally done, and whether it be practiced on man or on animals. Veterinary medicine obeys the same biological principles, is based on the same scientific studies and takes part in contributions to medicine as a whole. Because of the major role of animal experimentation in modern medicine the veterinarian's training is of the first importance in soundly based research.

To achieve the aims of H.R. 15757 colleges of veterinary medicine should be given assistance on the same basis as medical schools. To do otherwise would be to omit what is in many cases the most essential part of health research for the benefit of human beings, a knowledge of animal health and needs of the animals used in the laboratory.

Long needed improvements in care and housing of research animals are now being made in scientific institutions throughout the country in compliance with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act, P.L. 89-544. One of its requirements, that animals receive "adequate veterinary care" means that the demand for men and women trained in veterinary medicine will continue to increase, to the benefit of research results and the animals used in obtaining them. Enforcement of this valuable statute is carried out by the humane veterinarians of the Animal Health Division, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture. The outstanding advances in animal welfare made since they have undertaken the inspection and licensing of animal dealers and the inspection and registration of research facilities is worthy of high praise. It is a tribute to veterinary medicine generally and the devotion and ability of these men in particular that so much should already have been accomplished in a field where stultifying and unproductive controversy had reigned for years till practical scientific and humane principles were put into effect in implementing the new law.