

MEMORANDUM

APRIL 18, 1972

TO: Senator
FROM: Dan and Bob
SUBJ: York Hospital Appearance

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The construction which you will observe is for an additional wing for out-patient care and a school of nursing. The York community is very proud of this hospital and to finance the construction they raised \$5.7 million through a bond issue. They received \$1 million from the Federal Government to help them.

The American Hospital Association has shown that the York hospital is lower in patient costs per day and length of patient stay than the national average. The hospital's operating costs are also below the national average. They saved a half million dollars on a recent cost study plan.

The hospital is a nationally recognized leader in medical education.

In talking about health care, the attached press statement should guide you and you should hold York hospital up as an example of a hospital that is doing an excellent job serving a community.

NEWS RELEASE HUMPHREY

FOR PRESIDENT

1225 19TH ST. N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036
PHONE: 202-872-1600



FOR RELEASE: 12:30PM April 19, 1972

CONTACT: Walt Wurfel

HUMPHREY'S NATIONAL HEALTH CARE PLAN WOULD
END YEARS OF NIXON NEGLECT, BRING MAJOR
IMPROVEMENTS

YORK, Pa--Slamming the Nixon Administration's failure to deal effectively with the nation's health care crisis, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey said today his National Health Security Act would provide the complete overhaul ~~of~~ current programs that is desperately needed.

In remarks during a visit to the construction site of a new wing for the York Hospital, Senator Humphrey said, "The Nixon Administration's cost of living controls are having little or no effect on holding down health care costs. Those costs have increased between 8 and 12 per cent since the Nixon freeze--about the same rate they were increasing before the freeze.

"I'm deeply concerned about the failure of the Nixon administration to do something realistic about rising costs; about shortages of doctors, dentists and nurses; about loopholes in health insurance about financially troubled medical schools," Senator Humphrey said.

"Nearly three years ago, President Nixon said the nation faced a 'massive crisis' in health care," Humphrey said, "that if something wasn't done in two or three years we would have a breakdown in our medical care system.

"Yet it took him nearly two years to propose a plan of action. A plan--in fact--that would discriminate against the poor. A plan to force employees to buy billions in insurance from private companies. A plan that would provide no funds for new health resources or education. A plan that would generally support and extend the present disgraceful health care situation."

Nothing short of a complete overhaul of our health care machinery will head off a disaster, Humphrey said, adding that the National Health Security Act he is sponsoring in the Senate provides the needed changes:

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"It is a national plan. It would create a comprehensive health care program covering everyone living in the United States. It would bring major improvements in the organization, financing and provision of health care.

"It would be a natural extension of our already proven Social Security system.

"It would also end the neglect of the chronically ill. That neglect must be ended or we'll never be able to claim we live in a humane and compassionate society," Senator Humphrey added:

"We can no longer tolerate the deterioration of our nation's health care as it compares to other industrial countries. It's not only shocking, but it's unforgiveable to find--despite a yearly national expenditure of \$75 billion--that Americans often receive poor care and die sooner than the citizens of most other industrial countries.

"We rank 14th in infant deaths. We rank 11th in mothers dying in childbirth. We rank 22nd in male life expectancy and seventh in female. We rank 16th in the death rate of males in their middle years. In all instances, the U.S. ranks lower than a generation ago.

"This is true despite these facts: We spend four times as much on health care than we did 20 years ago. We spend a bigger percentage of our national income on health care than any other country. We have the most advanced treatment techniques in the world.

"I pledge to you a health crusade. For I know my deep concern is shared by many Americans. Our voices cannot and will not be ignored."

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