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**RELIEF OF THE CASA ANGELICA
MENTAL RETARDATION FACILITY**

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JUN 26 1971

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HEARING

BEFORE THE

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
OF THE**

**COMMITTEE ON
INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

NINETY-SECOND CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

H.R. 864

**A BILL FOR THE RELIEF OF THE CASA ANGELICA MENTAL
RETARDATION FACILITY AT ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX.**

JUNE 22, 1971

Serial No. 92-17

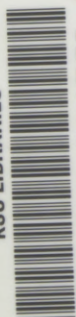
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LETTER

My dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the above matter. I am sorry to hear that you are not satisfied with the result of the investigation. I have, however, no objection to your making such use of the facts as you may think proper. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. H. [Name]

RELIEF OF THE CASA ANGELICA MENTAL RETARDATION FACILITY

TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 1971

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT,
COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met at 9:30 a.m., pursuant to notice, in room 2322, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Paul G. Rogers (chairman) presiding.

Mr. ROGERS. The subcommittee will come to order, please.

The hearing this morning is on H.R. 864, a bill for the relief of the Casa Angelica mental retardation facility. In the early 1960's, a group of parents with severely handicapped children, together with other interested persons, formed a nonprofit corporation, the New Mexico Foundation for Retarded Children. The foundation, presently known as the Casa Angelica Foundation, did not apply for funds under Public Law 88-164, although it appears that they qualified for such funds. As I understand it, the purpose was to avoid delaying the construction of this facility.

The purpose of this bill would be to permit the foundation to apply for a construction grant, and the application would be considered, in competition with all others, as though construction had not commenced.

Legislation accomplishing this result was introduced last Congress by our colleague, Mr. Lujan, and a bill identical to H.R. 864 passed the Senate last session, but time did not permit consideration by this committee.

I understand the agency reports were favorable to the bill last Congress.

At this point in the record there will be included a text of the bill and report thereon.

(The text of H.R. 864 and agency report thereon follow:)

(1)

92D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 864

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 22, 1971

Mr. LUJAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

A BILL

For the relief of the Casa Angelica mental retardation facility of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That, notwithstanding any provision of the Mental Retarda-
4 tion Facilities Construction Act, if the State of New Mexico
5 so desires, any application for a construction grant under part
6 C of such Act (42 U.S.C. 2671 et seq.) may be submitted
7 with respect to the facility known as Casa Angelica, of Albu-
8 querque, New Mexico, and such application shall be treated
9 and acted upon in like manner (insofar as possible) as if

1 construction of such facility had not commenced at the time
 2 such application is submitted, except that no grant made
 3 under such part C shall be made, as a result of any such
 4 application, in an amount in excess of the amount of the in-
 5 debtedness of such facility which was incurred as a result of
 6 the construction thereof and which is outstanding at the time
 7 such application is approved, and the Secretary of Health,
 8 Education, and Welfare may condition the payment of such
 9 grant on the payment of such indebtedness.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE,
 Washington, D.C., July 6, 1971.

HON. HARLEY O. STAGGERS,
Chairman, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, House of Repre-
sentatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This letter is in response to your request of February 10, 1971, for a report on H.R. 864, a bill "For the relief of the Casa Angelica Mental Retardation Facility of Albuquerque, New Mexico."

The bill, H.R. 864, would provide that the existing Casa Angelica Mental Retardation Facility of Albuquerque, New Mexico could apply for a construction grant under the Mental Retardation Facilities Construction Act. It should be pointed out that this Act was recently amended by P.L. 91-517 and is now the Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Act of 1970. Under the proposed legislation the Casa Angelica Mental Retardation Facility of Albuquerque, New Mexico application would then be considered as if it had been received prior to the commencement of construction. The facility would have to submit an application to the State and thereafter be given a priority rating by the State Planning and Advisory Council and the appropriate State agency designated to administer the construction program. The Casa Angelica Mental Retardation Facility would have to compete with other applicants in the State for the funds for which New Mexico is entitled.

One of the primary purposes of the developmental disabilities construction authority is to promote new and increased community developmental disabilities services. Consequently, we generally do not approve of extension of assistance with respect to facilities which have been constructed before or without the benefit of the process provided under this program. However, enactment of this bill would make possible the extension of assistance to the Casa Angelica facility which will help its sponsors meet the heavy indebtedness they incurred in expediting its construction by not waiting for Federal assistance under the program; it would thereby help this facility in its commendable effort to provide needed services for mentally retarded children. In light of the circumstances, we would not object to the enactment of H.R. 864. (The bill should, of course, be amended to reflect the enactment of the Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Act which supersedes the Mental Retardation Facilities Construction Act.)

We are advised by the Office of Management and Budget that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON,
Secretary.

Mr. ROGERS. Our first witness this morning will be Mrs. Peggy Papp. Mrs. Papp, the committee will be pleased to have you come to the table and offer a statement.

STATEMENT OF HON. MANUEL LUJAN, JR., A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, PRESENTED BY MRS. PEGGY PAPP

Mrs. PAPP. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, Congressman Manuel Lujan, Jr., was unavoidably detained and he has requested that I present the following statement for him:

I am pleased to appear before the subcommittee this morning on behalf of H.R. 864, for the relief of Casa Angelica, a mental retardation facility for severely handicapped children in Albuquerque, N. Mex. If passed, the bill would permit this facility to apply for a construction grant under the Mental Retardation Facilities Construction Act even though it has already been built.

During the early 1960's, a group of parents with severely retarded children, together with other interested persons, formed a nonprofit corporation called the New Mexico Foundation for Retarded Children. They felt that a nursing home for these children was urgently needed, and they set about raising the money to build it, and finding the people to staff it. An order of nuns with a great deal of experience working with mentally retarded children, the Daughters of Charity of Canossa, became interested in the project, and established a branch of their order in Albuquerque.

By combining their efforts, the two groups constructed Casa Angelica on property owned by the nuns. The cost was \$180,000 advanced by an Albuquerque bank, secured by a mortgage and the personal endorsement of a number of Albuquerque citizens. Since its completion in January 1967, it has operated at full capacity and is now serving 19 youngsters, all of whom are severely retarded.

Unfortunately, the Foundation—which has since changed its name to Casa Angelica Foundation—did not apply for funds under Public Law 88-164 prior to construction. The members believed that the need was immediate and that delay was unacceptable. During the time they would be going through the application procedures, they could have the facility built and taking care of the children.

By introducing this bill, I am not asking that Casa Angelica be given special treatment except to permit application for a construction grant after the work has already taken place. I would like to have inserted in the record a copy of a brochure that describes in greater detail the work that is carried out there.

(The brochure referred to follows:)



CASA ANGELICA, 5629 ISLETA BOULEVARD, S.W., ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

HOUSE OF THE ANGELS

Casa Angelica is the first privately operated nursing home for severely retarded children in the State of New Mexico and is licensed by the Department of Hospitals and the State Health Department. Operated by the Canossian Daughters of Charity, it is dedicated to the purpose of serving the parents of severely retarded children, to give them solace and comfort in knowing that their child is being professionally cared for in an atmosphere of love and understanding.

Located in the peaceful South Valley of Albuquerque on Isleta Boulevard, the hospital and adjacent home of the Sisters are situated on 15 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds where the children often are brought to enjoy the bright sunshine, fresh air and a picnic lunch.

Casa Angelica was a dream of the parents of a severely retarded child who, when they realized their efforts to take care of the child were inadequate, sought help. They found no facilities in New Mexico which met their need. They decided to try another approach and gathered together friends, relatives and neighbors in an effort to solve their dilemma. This group was soon expanded to include influential civic and business leaders and the New Mexico Foundation for Mentally Retarded Children, a non-profit corporation was formed. This name was recently changed to "Casa Angelica Foundation."

Five years of planning, working and dreaming went by before the dream became a reality and finally on January 15, 1967, Casa Angelica was opened. The Most Reverend James Peter Davis, Archbishop of Santa Fe, presided at the dedication.

Casa Angelica's door is open to all severely retarded children regardless of race, creed, or religion. The only requirement for admission is the availability of room and the need for constant and complete care. Casa Angelica is dedicated to those children who cannot help themselves.

PROFESSIONALLY STAFFED



Casa Angelica is under the direct supervision of Mother Josephine Palmery, Administrator.



Left to right: Sister Concetta, Mother Josephine Palmery, Mother Novello, Sister Annette, Sister Stella.

The Canossian Daughters of Charity is a teaching-nursing order whose Sisters can be found working on five continents. These dedicated women bring to Casa Angelica professional training in special nursing and a profound love and dedication so necessary for this type of care.

Registered nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, and hospital aides round out the staff providing an almost one-to-one ratio of staff to patient.

Medical care is under the supervision of William K. Woodard M.D. of Albuquerque, specialist in diseases of children. Each child is thoroughly checked by him weekly . . . with additional special visits for children who are extremely ill.

Dental care is administered by accredited dentists who visit the premises voluntarily. Physical Therapy is provided by two trained therapists who work out programs for the children on a volunteer basis.

DIETARY



Meals are professionally prepared in a well-equipped kitchen. Special diets for individuals are prepared at the request of the attending physician. All children are fed by nurses and aides with the sisters giving patient attention to the extremely sick children.

HOSPITAL FACILITIES

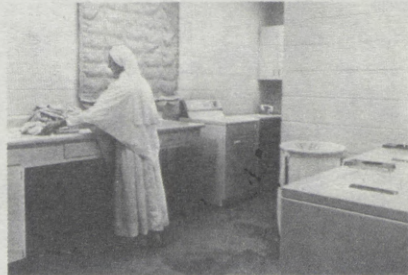


Oxygen and a suctioning machine are part of the special equipment available in the examination room for emergency treatment.

In the long-range plans provision will be made for short-term admittance for retarded children who are ill and need hospital care.



The nursing station is equipped with the latest, specialized equipment and is centrally located to both wards and the isolation room. A licensed practical nurse is on duty 24-hours a day.



Each child is dressed in his own clothing and separate spaces are provided for each child's wardrobe in boys and girls closets. Spacious laundry facilities are provided on the premises and sisters perform these duties.



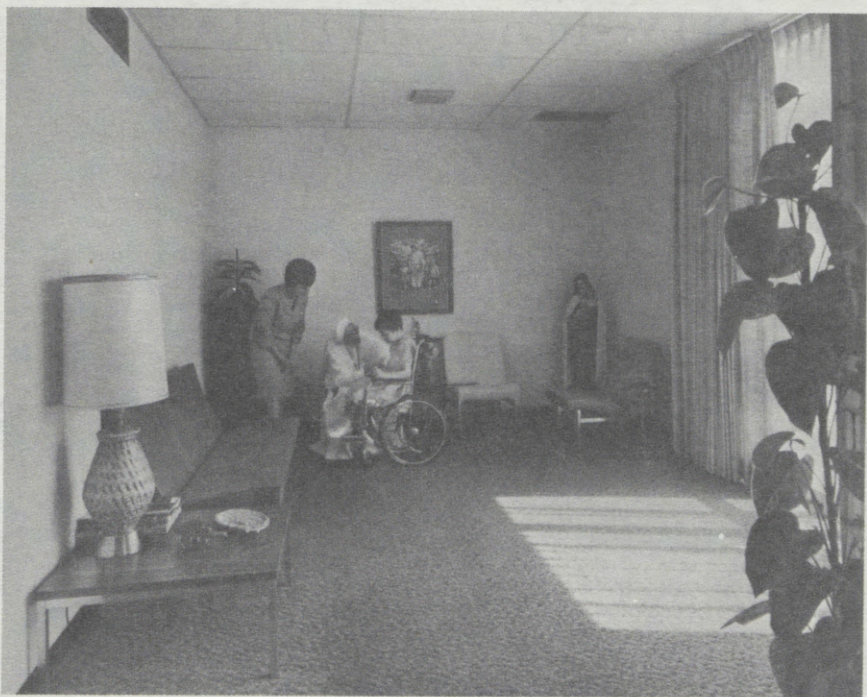
PHYSICAL THERAPY

Physical therapy, one of the oldest sciences known to man, came into its own during and immediately after World War II aiding injured service men to return to a normal and productive life.

The Physical Therapy Department at Casa Angelica, while cramped for space and sorely lacking in equipment, is doing magnificent work with the youngsters. Under the direction of Mrs. Esther McKinnon, R.P.T. and aided by assistant therapist Tony Bandoni, both of whom are volunteers and receive no remuneration for their services, this department is a viable asset to the care and comfort of the children.

The difficult they do now; the impossible takes them a little longer. Besides devoting their time in making the children more comfortable through therapy procedures, they are also responsible for raising funds for equipment and aids such as cast plasters, strappings, tape, ace bandages, corrective shoes enabling some of the children to walk for the first time, back cast and chest plate, leg braces, and head harnesses to name just a few. Tony designed the standing table (shown on the opposite page) and was able to construct it at no cost to the hospital. It has four cubicles with a pillow in front and back of each. This helps the children to keep their balance while standing in them and playing with their toys.

Part of the funds raised in our campaign will be utilized to establish a new physical therapy department with the latest equipment. When we realize the great work our volunteer therapists are doing under the most trying of conditions, imagine what can be done under ideal conditions.



Here in a spacious reception room Mother Josephine welcomes anxious parent. Her warm smile and quiet manner assure her that her child will constantly receive the best care possible.

OTHER CHILDREN WAITING

The preceding pages graphically illustrate the remarkable work the sisters and staff are doing for the severely retarded children fortunate enough to have a home like Casa Angelica in which to live. They have found an oasis of peace dedicated to assistance, love and happiness.

But what of the children who, because there is just no more room at Casa Angelica, are unable to be accepted. These are also severely retarded children, who for some reason not fully understood by science, are different.

They are unable to do things for themselves. They need help, care and special consideration. They need emotional as well as physical care, and constant loving attention.

They need more and better care than their parents are capable of giving. Parents are only human. They have limited physical strength. They are forced to live according to a time schedule which does not seem to consider the severely retarded child who knows nothing of the time and whose needs arise despite the position of the sun in the sky. In their own way, these children are very demanding and their demands impose impossible hardships on parents who have other duties and obligations to perform. There is the duty to earn a living, make a home; there may be other children in the family to care for and love and there are the countless necessities of every day living which must be performed. These and other things must be done and they make portentous demands on parents no matter how loving they might be.

And beyond all this, the severely retarded child requires a special kind of attention, expert attention. He needs specially trained people to administer to his special needs. People who have been educated to give him the right kind of care, to teach him in accordance with the most modern educational methods and materials, specially trained people who have been taught to recognize his special needs, know him and understand him and love him. It is because of these children that the Board of Directors of the Casa Angelica Foundation, all civic leaders in our community, have embarked on this fund raising campaign to enlarge the facilities at the home and make room for these children. To provide for them better care than they could get in their own homes, and to provide comfort and solace to the parents of these children who will know that they have also found the oasis of peace dedicated to assistance, love and happiness.

CASA ANGELICA FUND

The Casa Angelica Fund is a capital funds campaign with an objective of \$500,000 for debt reduction and the vital expansion of the present facility so that we may make room for those severely retarded children who are waiting.

ELEMENTS OF THE GOAL

MORTGAGE	\$200,000
EXPANSION	\$300,000
	\$500,000

The mortgage must be reduced by at least one-third in order to qualify for available federal funds.

The proposed expansion program would not only provide space for more children but also include an expanded physical therapy area, a dining area and an all important play area.

Donors to the Casa Angelica Fund will be given the opportunity to liquidate their pledges over a three-year period. All contributions are tax deductible.

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE

GIFTS BY PLEDGE. A (three-year) pledge is the basis of Casa Angelica's fund campaign. Many people find that a pledge of this type best enables them to give a sum proportionate to their interest and desires. Pledges may be paid annually, semiannually, or quarterly — or in any other way best suited to the convenience of the donor.

GIFT OF SECURITIES. A gift of securities to a non-profit institution is extremely advantageous to the donor. Any donor — whether an individual or a corporation — owning securities which have increased in value since their purchase can effect a considerable savings by transferring these securities to Casa Angelica. The donor pays no capital gains tax on the appreciation but receives an income tax deduction (within the limits of total gift deductions allowed by law) for the full market price of the securities on the day the gift is presented.

GIFTS BY BEQUESTS AND TRUSTS. Various forms of bequests are possible, and current gifts may be supplemented by bequest. In cases where one's immediate family must take precedence, Casa Angelica can be named by will or in trust as a legatee contingently or in remainder. If an irrevocable gift is made in trust, it becomes an immediate asset of Casa Angelica and can be designated as a memorial gift.

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS. Other ways of contributing include gifts of real estate and other personal property, insurance policies naming Casa Angelica as beneficiary, and life income agreements. The latter enables the donor to make a substantial gift and still receive the interest throughout his lifetime.

GIFTS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. The Federal government allows deductions of payment on contributions to non-profit institutions up to 30% of an individual's or married couple's adjusted gross income. Corporation gifts to Casa Angelica are deductible up to 5% of the company's net income in each year.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Seated left to right: Mrs. Milton Seligman, Secretary; Don Kirby, 1st Vice President; Emmanuel Schifani, President; Mrs. Albert Arrigoni, 2nd Vice President.

Standing left to right: A. W. LaPine, Treasurer; Albert Arrigoni, Director; Benjamin Raskob, Director; John Dwyer, Assistant Secretary.

Not present: Peter McCanna, Director; John Craig, Director; William K. Woodward, M.D., Director.

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Don Kirby

ADVANCE GIFTS CHAIRMAN
Daman Bowersock

SPECIAL GIFTS CHAIRMAN
William B. Keleher
Mrs. Lawson Stiff

GENERAL GIFTS CO-CHAIRMAN
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ASST. SECRETARY
A. W. LAPINE
TREASURER

Albert Arrigoni, John Binford, Daman Bowersock, Charles Campbell, John Craig, Mrs. John Craig, Mrs. W. A. Fanning, Reginald Garcia, Philip Hubbell, Mrs. Jo Eckert Huber, Ed Jory, William B. Keleher, Mrs. Reginald Loggathe, Jon Lopez, Peter McCanna, Mrs. Horace McKay, Mrs. Frank McCulloch, Frank Peloso, Mrs. Howard Phillips, Benjamin Raskob, Mrs. Lawson Stiff, Mrs. Jack Watson, William Kay Woodard, M.D.

The Women's Auxiliary, with some 500 members, has been a viable force in helping Casa Angelica maintain a "break even" status through various fund raising ventures.



Seated left to right: Mrs. Mario Franchini, Director; Mrs. Frank McCulloch, President. Standing left to right: Mrs. Joseph L. Rossi, President Elect; Mrs. Dale Massey, Director; Mrs. James Kelly, Treasurer.

Not present when photo was taken: Mrs. Harry L. Lyle, Vice President; Mrs. Henry L. Kil, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Eugene E. Klean, Director; Mrs. Albert Arrigoni, Director; Mrs. L. W. Otoski, Recording Secretary.

When a Child is Different

These little flames
we must shield
with our hands,
for these little flames
radiate warmth
and quiet joy;
they shine on the road
that leads to the
wisdom of the heart,
to human maturity
and to true wealth.

Dr. Maria Egg

Mrs. PAPP. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully request early approval of this bill by the members of the subcommittee, and I appreciate the opportunity you have given me to speak to you about this.

At this point I would be happy to answer any questions you or other members of the subcommittee might have.

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Preyer?

Mr. PREYER. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman. I gather this simply permits them to apply for the grant and, of course, we don't go into the relative merits against other facilities.

Mrs. PAPP. Right.

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Nelsen?

Mr. NELSEN. I have no questions. I only wish to say that I think this is a very, very worthwhile endeavor and one that is often overlooked. Just how the ball will bounce relative to the approach taken here, I have no way of knowing, but I do think it is worthy of our very careful consideration. Thank you.

Mr. ROGERS. Why was it they did not wait and get a grant?

Mrs. PAPP. It is my understanding that most of the parents that were involved in this had severely retarded children, and these are the type of children who are not only retarded mentally but physically handicapped as well. The State-operated facility has a waiting list of 500 children, and they felt that by the time they obtained the grant so many years would have elapsed that they didn't want to wait any longer. They preferred to build something immediately, so they went ahead with it.

Mr. ROGERS. Let me ask you this—and I understand if you don't know—are they getting staffing grants?

Mrs. PAPP. I don't know. As far as I know they are not. All expenses are covered through money the group now called Casa-Angelica is able to raise.

Mr. ROGERS. I think it would be helpful for the committee if you could furnish for the record what support they are getting from the State of New Mexico, if any.

Mrs. PAPP. They are not getting any now from the State; funding is private now.

Mr. ROGERS. And any Federal funds. I think that would be helpful. (The following letters were received for the record:)

CASA ANGELICA FOUNDATION,
Albuquerque, N. Mex., June 28, 1971.

HON. MANUEL LUJAN, JR.,
Longworth Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN LUJAN: The Daughters of Charity of Canossa, a New Mexico Corporation, operates an in-patient care and treatment facility for severely mentally retarded children in Albuquerque, New Mexico, known as "Casa Angelica".

Casa Angelica receives no funds from the Federal Government except as follows:

1. Members of the military have allotment checks sent to Casa Angelica to pay for the care of their children. Seven (7) children are presently in the facility under this category.

2. An Application (NM-MR-6) for a \$100,000 expansion of the existing facility has been approved by the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare under Title I Part C PL 88-164. The federal portion of the grant is \$60,000. Casa Angelica must match this sum with \$40,000.

In the event, you are in need of any additional information please call me collect, (505) 247-4321, and the undersigned will respond without delay.

Very truly yours,

REGINALD J. GARCIA.

CASA ANGELICA FOUNDATION,
Albuquerque, N. Mex., June 29, 1971.

HON. MANUEL LUJAN, Jr.,
Congress of the United States, House of Representatives, Longworth Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN LUJAN: The Daughters of Charity of Canossa, a New Mexico Corporation, operates an in-patient care and treatment facility for severely mentally retarded children in Albuquerque, New Mexico, known as "Casa Angelica."

Casa Angelica receives funds from the State of New Mexico as follows:

For each retarded child that is abandoned and placed at Casa Angelica the State of New Mexico pays \$97.00 per month. Two children are presently in the facility under this state program.

No state funds other than as above specified are received by Casa Angelica.

In the event you are in need of any additional information, please call me collect (505) 247-4321.

Very truly yours,

REGINALD J. GARCIA.

Mrs. PAPP. You may be interested in knowing that they have now reduced the amount of money owed originally from \$180,000 to \$153,000.

Mr. NELSEN. Mr. Chairman, anticipating the precedent that might be set by this type of bill, I wonder, are there other ways that we might move which would relieve the financial pressures other than the approach taken in the bill. This is something we ought to go into.

Mr. ROGERS. That is why I asked if they are receiving staffing grants, support money, which might be possible.

Mr. NELSEN. It wouldn't matter whether aid came in that approach or some other approach if it is dollar help, it would mean the same thing.

Mr. ROGERS. Thank you very much. We appreciate your being here. That concludes the hearing on this particular bill.

(Whereupon, at 9:50 a.m. the subcommittee adjourned.)

