



E001369

RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: UNAVAILABILITY OF THOSE PROGRAM MONIES WHICH WERE APPROPRIATED BY THE CONGRESS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1971 AND WHICH SUBSEQUENTLY HAVE BEEN PLACED IN RESERVE - REQUESTS RECONSIDERATION.

WHEREAS: The Regional Medical Programs Service was created and exists for the purposes of (1) improving for all citizens access to and utilization of their local health care systems, and (2) improving the quality and effectiveness of the health services provided within regions, particularly with regard to cancer, stroke and diseases of the heart and kidney, and

WHEREAS: The Regional Medical Programs Service during the five years of its existence has established viable, local organizational networks among the major health care providers, and improved the number and quality of the linkages which now exist between these providers and the consumers who comprise the several regions; and

WHEREAS: For these disease categories the Regional Medical Programs Service was established to be a primary, functional arm of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare whereby the potential benefits which result from the nation's support of the biomedical research enterprise at the National Institutes of Health can be realized from practical applications within communities; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the National Advisory Council for Regional Medical Programs wishes to express to the Administrator, Health Services and Mental Health Administration, and to the Assistant Secretary for Health and Scientific Affairs its deep concern that the unavailability of those program monies which were appropriated by the Congress for fiscal year 1971 and which subsequently have been placed in reserve will result in serious curtailment in the momentum of the overall program in meeting its objectives and, therefore, requests reconsideration of this matter in terms of the Administrator's expressed national priorities for improving the health services and delivery system of the country; and be it further

RESOLVED: That as new systems for the delivery of health services to communities are devised and instituted, the Council respectfully submits that the Regional Medical Programs Service is the most expedient instrument to access improvements in the quality of care provided by these systems by virtue of its specific charge to be the principal program which interrelates all of the providers of health care within communities; and be it further

RESOLVED: That in support of this request the Council assures the Administrator and the Assistant Secretary that specific effort will be made immediately and on a continuing basis to reinforce the liaison and collaborative efforts between the Regional Medical Programs Service and other Health Service and Mental Health Administration programs as well as all relevant Institutes and program elements of the National Institutes of Health in order that no opportunity be overlooked for bringing to the regions with the greatest possible speed those medical research advances which can form the basis for improving access to and the overall quality of the health care available to the people of these regions.

In so doing the Council announces its intent to establish immediately for the Regional Medical Programs Service a set of sharpened program priorities as determined in consultation with Health Services and Mental Health Administration, the National Institutes of Health and other leaders in the field of health.