

000924

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUMPHREY

SOUTHERN FLORIDA PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION  
MEETING

FEBRUARY 1, 1972

000925  
South Florida  
Pharmaceuticals Speech  
Feb 1.

UNTIL WE ORGANIZE A DOUBLE BARRELED ATTACK ON DRUGS  
COMPRISING STRONG AND AGGRESSIVE ENFORCEMENT COUPLED WITH  
WIDESPREAD REHABILITATION AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS OUR CHILDREN  
WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE VICTIMS OF PUSHERS AND CRIME SYNDICATES.

A LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM ALONE WITHOUT A COORDINATED  
PROGRAM OF MEDICAL REHABILITATION AND RESEARCH WILL NOT HALT  
AMERICA'S DRUG CRISIS.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S RECENT FORMATION OF A NEW JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF DRUG ABUSE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT FALLS  
SHORT OF PROVIDING THIS NATION WITH THE TOOLS TO WAGE AN ALL-  
OUT WAR ON DRUG USAGE AND DRUG ABUSE.

WORLDWIDE ORGANIZED CRIME AND THE STREET LEVEL HEROIN  
PUSHER ARE THE TARGETS OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S NEW LAW  
ENFORCEMENT EFFORT. WE DESPERATELY NEEDED THIS ACCELERATED  
FEDERAL ROLE IN FIGHTING THIS TYPE OF CRIME. I BELIEVE THAT  
IT IS THREE YEARS LATE.

BUT THE NEARLY 200,000 HARD-CORE ADDICTS IN THIS COUNTRY  
 ARE LEFT OUT OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S NEW DRUG ABUSE PROGRAM.  
 AND WHAT ABOUT THE MILLIONS OF YOUNG AMERICANS WHO ARE USING  
 AND ABUSING ALL TYPES OF DRUGS--FROM AMPHETAMINES AND MARIJUANA  
 TO HEROIN? ARE ALL OF THESE PEOPLE LAW ENFORCEMENT PROBLEMS  
 OR ARE THEY PEOPLE WHO NEED TO BE EDUCATED AND REHABILITATED?  
 THE DRUG PROBLEM IN AMERICA TODAY IS A LOCAL PROBLEM--IT IS  
 A NEIGHBORHOOD PROBLEM IN GHETTOES AND IN SUBURBS. ⊗A

*W. J. DeLo* PROPOSE *we* TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS IN A MAJOR OFFENSIVE  
 ON DRUG ADDICTION AND ABUSE:

1. ESTABLISH A DRUG CURE AND CONTROL AGENCY WITH AUTHORITY  
IN BOTH LAW ENFORCEMENT AND IN DRUG RESEARCH, TREATMENT AND  
EDUCATION. I HAVE RECENTLY INTRODUCED LEGISLATION TO DO THIS.

THE DRUG CURE AND CONTROL AGENCY WOULD END THE FEDERAL  
 GOVERNMENT'S FRAGMENTED APPROACH TO DRUG ABUSE AND CONTROL WHICH  
 NOW EXISTS AMONG A MULTIPLICITY OF AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS.

000927

-3-

2. A MASSIVE INCREASE IN FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR DRUG TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION. THE NEWLY SUBMITTED BUDGET ALLOCATES ONLY \$230 MILLION FOR TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION NATIONWIDE.

THIS SUM IS WHOLLY INADEQUATE ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU CALCULATE THAT HARD-CORE ADDICTS STEAL MORE THAN \$1 BILLION IN PROPERTY EACH YEAR TO MAINTAIN THEIR HABITS. WE FACE A REHABILITATION CRISIS BECAUSE OF INADEQUATE NUMBERS OF REHABILITATION CENTERS IN COMMUNITIES.

3. INCREASE EFFORTS FOR OBTAINING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS THAT WOULD CUT OFF THE FLOW OF HEROIN INTO THE UNITED STATES FROM ABROAD. OUR GOVERNMENT HAS NOT MOVED FORCEFULLY ENOUGH TO ADVOCATE AND NEGOTIATE THE TOTAL ERADICATION OF OPIUM CULTIVATION IN ALL NATIONS OF THE WORLD. IT IS TIME WE MADE IT KNOWN TO OUR FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD THAT WE WILL NOT SIT BACK AND WATCH

000928

-4-

THEM CULTIVATE THE PRODUCT THAT DESTROYS THE LIVES OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS AND WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR A SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF AMERICAN CRIME. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD ENLIST THE CIA IN THIS EFFORT. IF THE CIA CAN FIND OUR ENEMIES ABROAD, IT CAN EFFECTIVELY FIND THE DRUG SMUGGLER.

4. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MUST MAKE IT KNOWN TO MEDICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL PROFESSIONS THAT IT WANTS THEM TO DO SOME SELF-POLICING OF THE PROMISCUOUS DISPENSING AND PRESCRIBING OF DANGEROUS DRUGS SUCH AS AMPHETAMINES.

5. THE PRESIDENT SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CALL A WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON DRUG USE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT. THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE SHOULD IN REALITY BE ORGANIZED AS SEVERAL CONFERENCES TO BE HELD IN VARIOUS REGIONS OF THE COUNTRY. THEIR AIM WOULD BE THE MAPPING OF FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY AND CITY STRATEGIES

000929

-5-

FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND DRUG REHABILITATION EFFORTS. THESE WHITE  
HOUSE CONFERENCE'S COULD ALSO CATALOGUE LOCAL AND REGIONAL NEEDS  
SO THAT REALISTIC AND ADEQUATE FEDERAL AND STATE BUDGETS TO COMBAT  
THE DRUG CRISIS CAN BE DRAWN UP.

FEB 1, 1972

DADE COUNTY PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION

Tonight I would like to talk with you about something you are experts on: the street where you live and work. I say you are experts because you deal first and foremost with people and their problems. You are our first line of defense in finding out our problems and our first line of offense in dealing with them.

I am talking about the problems that affect us all - the health of the American spirit as well as our physical condition. As you know very well, if a man's spirit is down, all the medicine in the world won't make him well. And if he feels frustrated - if he feels he can't do anything about his problems, then he won't get well.

Today, your neighbors on the street where you live are frustrated. Their spirit is down. They see problems but no solutions.



2  
They feel unsafe to walk their streets - during the day as well as the night. They see drugs being sold on their street corners.

They see government, but no programs. They see bureaucracy, but no action. And they ask questions, but they get no answers.

Yes, the street where you and your neighbors live is truly the most important place in your world. Our problems begin and end on the front door step. And it is on your street, on every street in America, that government receives a failing grade today.

I am concerned that government is becoming increasingly remote from the people it is intended to serve. At all levels, government is becoming muscle-bound and less responsive than it should be to people's needs.

We simply must find ways to simplify and streamline government to bring it closer to the people. And we must find ways to bridge the gap between bureaucracies, whether in Washington or in our state capitals, and bring them closer to the local citizen where he lives - to the street where he lives. →

22222x  
The seventies must be a time when we make a reality of basic rights - the right to safety, the right to quality education, the right to clean air, the right to decent health care. Yes, and the right of people to have their sidewalks repaired and their garbage collected.

I say we must make government respond to the man on the street. We must take drastic action to make our government listen to us.

We must rebuild our government so that the American people with all their broken dreams can call it their own. We must have a rebuilding of our government. We must have reconciliation of our people. And we must have a rebirth of our spirit.

It is because I want to rebuild rather than tear down that I call here and now for the biggest house-cleaning Washington has ever seen.

Our Federal government almost defies description. The bureaucracy is like a dinosaur. If you hit it on the tail with a hammer, it would take one month before its little brain knows what hit him.

Our dinosaur - the government in Washington - just is not responsive when the man on the street wants to whack it on the tail. And that's why you and your neighbors are frustrated; no one is listening to us.

The government must understand what's important - and what is most important is the street where you live.

The street where you live is an issue when you wake up one morning and find the trees you looked at and loved to see grow and blossom are suddenly cut down by a bulldozer, then I say what's happening on your street is important.

I am going to give your street the attention it deserves. I am going to make sure you know what your government is doing for you - not just what it is doing to you.

When one out of every seven Americans works for the government every American should be able to expect that every department of ~~his~~<sup>the</sup> government operates with a reasonable degree of efficiency and a maximum degree of sensitivity.

But government efficiency <sup>alone</sup> is not enough. We must have a new partnership between the people and the government. We need popular participation in the government; without involving the people - without street level government - government programs won't work.

Each of us must do his part, and each of us has a role to play if a new partnership between the people and their government is going to work.

What can pharmacists do? What is their role? On the street where you live you have the central role to play in achieving quality health care for the American people. I have said there is an agenda for pharmacists; let's get down to work.

First, it is essential that ~~we~~<sup>we</sup> pharmacists undertake a major educational drive to overcome the extensive problem of drug abuse in America.

Second, we have a vital role to play in the national effort to control the dispensing of dangerous drugs.

Third, we must directly participate in the development of effective health care delivery systems on every street across the nation.

We must show the government what must be done, and what can be done. On every street, in every state capital, and →

in Washington we must work together, ~~to make the new partnership~~  
~~of people and government work.~~

We are going to make our government <sup>ment</sup> work for the American people. I call for a New Era of ~~Government~~ Accountability, ~~from the~~ government - and a New Era of Popular Responsibility from the people.

You know that before you can find a cure, you must diagnose the problem. I think we know the problem - of distant government and dismal programs. Together, we will find the cure - people and their government working in a New Partnership of effort and achievement.

###

FOR RELEASE --

p.m., (EST), Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1972

HUMPHREY CALLS FOR REGIONAL WHITE HOUSE AMBASSADORS  
TO BRING GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS TO THE PEOPLE

MIAMI, Feb. 1--Senator Hubert H. Humphrey ~~today~~ <sup>tonight</sup> proposed a network of "regional domestic White House ambassadors to help bridge the growing gap between unresponsive government bureaucracies and the people."

"Their purpose," he said, "would be to serve ~~as~~ as the direct representatives of the President, to coordinate the multiplicity of government ~~programs~~ programs, to wage war on ~~dup~~ duplication and waste, to bring programs into greater harmony with local, regional and national objectives.

"But most of all, their purpose would be to see that ~~the~~ programs and services reach ~~the~~ people and reach them *where they* ~~live~~ -- at the street level ~~effectively~~, efficiently and fairly."

Senator Humphrey told the Dade County Pharmacists Association here that "a major ~~work~~ reason for citizen frustration today is the seeming unresponsiveness of governments ~~and~~ and government bureaucracies to real citizen problems, whether they be drug addiction, or transportation, or medical care, or as seemingly simple a problem as ~~a~~ repairing the ~~sidewalk~~ sidewalk where you live.

"The ~~pe~~ people see problems, but no solutions.

"The people see a sprawling Federal government that employs one out of every seven working Americans. But they see little action.

And the people ~~insists~~ increasingly are asking questions and exerting just demands. But the response is often too little or too late.

~~Senator~~ "This is a big and growing nation. But if we organize our resources and if we have the will, we can restore responsive street level government. We can begin a new era of ~~responsiveness~~ responsiveness and accountability from government, and a new era of responsibility and participation from the people."

Senator ~~Wojahn~~ Humphrey said his regional White House Ambassadors proposal is symbolic of the ~~kind~~ kind of organization ~~that with dynamic Presidential leadership and the ability~~ that could help cut through bureaucratic red tape and get government programs to the people they are designed to serve.

"But we need more than new forms and channels and organizational improvements. We need dynamic Presidential leadership that can infuse a new spirit into the bureau<sup>u</sup>cracy, that can tap its talents and skills and create a new ~~new~~ partnership between government and people~~st~~ to meet our urgent domestic needs.

Senator Humphrey said the growing drug problem is symptomatic of citizen frustration and inadequate government response.

"We see illegal narcotics sold on the street corners. And nothing happens."

He urged the pharmacists to:

--"Undertake a major educational drive to overcome ~~current~~ problems of drug ~~use~~ abuse.

--"Exercise rigid self-policing in the ~~the~~ control and dispensing of dangerous drugs.

--"Become full and effective partners in developing ~~improved~~  
improved health care delivery systems."

-0- ~~✱~~

(End)

Dan Spiegel-- Pls call me re. distribution--Jack



# Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



[www.mnhs.org](http://www.mnhs.org)