

**LEWIS ARTHUR MCGOWAN**

**RANCHO SANTA FE  
CALIFORNIA**

January 6, 1959

Hon. John E. Fogarty  
House Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear John:

Supplementing my letter of December 3, 1958 with respect to expanding the Hill-Burton Act (The Hospital Survey and Construction Act) to provide grants to assist American Missionaries in meeting the costs of their public health services in foreign countries and in initiating projects for the extension and improvements of their public health services especially with regards to hospitals and training schools for nurses, I respectfully submit for your consideration the enclosed extract from the current issue of Newsweek dated January 5, 1959 which reads as follows:

"The 86th Congress is likely to write more international health legislation than any other session in Congressional history.

"The Administration is certain to ask more money to spend in underdeveloped countries on public sanitation, nursing, and midwifery.

"In addition, the government may propose a new U.S. institute for international medical research.

"Money appropriated for this would be used to bring research scientists from both sides of the Iron Curtain to this country. It would also be used to pay for grants to foreign institutes, hospitals, and universities."

I believe that the United States Public Health Service that administers the provisions of the Hill-Burton Act is the best qualified agency of our government to administer the international health legislation mentioned in the above excerpt from Newsweek, and spend whatever money that may be appropriated. The most practical way to achieve the purpose of such international health legislation is to extend the provisions of the Hill-Burton Act because of the experience the Public Health Service has had in carrying out the purposes of that Act.

The best qualified American organizations and personnel in foreign countries to promote and assist in the extension and improvement of public health services and to provide for a more effective use of available Federal

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funds are American Missionaries. In making American Missionaries eligible to receive Federal Grant-In-Aid it would help solve a big problem relative to what organizations and personnel are entitled to obtain grants under international health legislation.

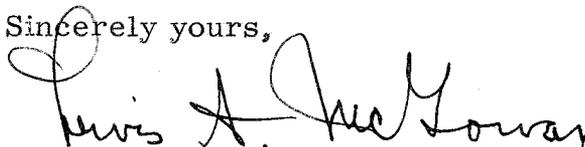
The Hill-Burton Act has been effective in securing for our country additional public health facilities such as hospitals and training schools for nurses. The Act constitutes a good foundation for extending its benefits to foreign countries to meet some of their needs for public health services. A critical shortage of nurses as well as hospitals and infirmaries exist abroad where American Missionaries carry on their work of administering to the health of the people.

I notice in the Hearings before the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce House of Representatives, June 9, 1953 on H. R. 3171 and H. R. 5419 to extend the duration of the Hospital Survey and Construction Act, (Hill-Burton Act) reference on page 10 of your amendment to raise the amount recommended by the committee for construction of hospitals from \$50 million to \$75 million for the fiscal year 1945. The amendment was adopted by the House. On pages 28-29 of the hearings there is a long list of the values of the Hill-Burton Act.

It is very evident from a study of the Committee hearings that many of the Hill-Burton Act benefits can be attributed to the \$25 million increase in the appropriation that you secured in the House. I know that you will continue your interest in the subject matter of the Act and trust that you will favorably consider an extension of its benefits to American Missionaries. I assure you that Catholic American Missionaries are most grateful to you. I represent some of them who are located in the Far East and Africa engaged in medical activities.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lewis A. Mack Lower". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Lewis A. Mack Lower".

LAMc/ba

Enc.