

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

6/13/59

James C. Hagerty, Press Secretary to the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

In view of the considerable public attention which has been focused recently on the radiological health studies of the Federal Government, the President has asked that information of the Executive Branch be made clear.

On March sixteenth the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare at his regular press conference suggested that it would be made to determine how the Federal Government best organize itself to perform the necessary monitoring and related studies of fall-out and radiological health problems.

The Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, testifying before the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, on March fourth emphasized that there should be a careful examination of the organizational arrangements of the pertinent Federal agencies in this field.

Therefore, at the request of the President, a study of Federal organization of radiological health activities has been initiated by the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, and the Director of the Bureau of the Budget.

This study is now well under way, and involves the organizational arrangements within the Executive Branch. The Bureau of the Budget which serves as the President's staff on such matters is providing leadership for the study and will be responsible for making recommendations to the President when the study is complete. This study is primarily concerned with the coordination of existing government activities in this field.

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DRAFT PRESS RELEASE

In view of the recent Congressional action which has focused recently on the national health care program, the Government, the President has ordered that two of the Executive Branch be made clear.

On March 14th, the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare at his regular press conference expressed the fundamental principle to determine how the Federal Government could best perform the necessary role in the health care field and radiological health problems.

~~Mr. [Name]~~ ^{Dr. [Name]}, Chairman of the Health, Education and Welfare Committee, testified before the Joint Atomic Energy Committee on March 14th, emphasizing that there should be a new basis for the present health care arrangements at the present time and to be effective in the future.

Therefore, in the view of the President, a Federal organization of health care should be established by the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, the Secretary of Atomic Energy, the Director of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the Director of the Department of Budget.

This arrangement will ensure a more effective health care program arrangements with the Executive Branch of the Government of the United States.

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which serves as the President's office and under his personal leadership for the study, and will be responsible for making recommendations to the President when the study is completed. This study is primarily concerned with the means of organizing government of the field. ~~Other studies are under way dealing with the quality and other aspects of the problem.~~