

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

April 5, 1971

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Mary Lasker
FROM: Senator Humphrey

I have contacted Gaylord Nelson and Walter Mondale. Both of them want to be of help on the Cancer Institute program, but both of them feel that there will have to be some adjustments. They are not quite sure what they will work out, but they told me they wanted to see a Cancer Institute that had a degree of autonomy but that still remained within the general complex of the NIH. They want this Institute with larger funds and without the strict administrative controls which NIH now exerts. They are not at all sure what kind of a formula they're going to work out. I told them I'd be glad to work with them. I suggest that you might also have some of your people, particularly the panel members, call on Gaylord and Mondale.

Alan Cranston is very much in the same situation. He will be helpful, wants to be, but feels that a separate institute will set a precedent and result in dismembering the NIH program. In other words, Mary, we have some hard work to do.

I'll be contacting Prouty and Packwood and Senator Schweiker and will give you a report on their reactions. We shall keep working together.