May 16, 1958

Honorable John E. Fogarty
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Fogarty:

Recent events have recalled to my mind my first meeting with you. This was on the occasion of your inspecting the various facilities in the State of Rhode Island for the care of Cerebral Palsy patients, and I had the pleasure of being with you for a few hours when we visited the Miriam Hospital, the Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital and met with representatives of Brown University.

Due to your valiant efforts, a large appropriation, averaging close to one hundred thousand dollars a year was made available to Brown University as administrator for various projects in association with this worthy cause.

Like many other physicians and citizens who were acquainted with this grant, I had looked forward with great anticipation to the initiation and carrying through of projects devoted to determining the causes of Cerebral Palsy.

If memory serves, it would appear that about two years have elapsed since the decision was made and the funds allocated. To the best of my knowledge, in this period there has been no substantial progress made in carrying out the objectives of the grant. Specific research projects have been submitted through the existing channels, interested and skilled personnel have been placed on a stand-by basis awaiting the initiation of such projects, and yet no results are forthcoming despite the large sums involved and the widespread publicity given to this worthy project.

If my facts are correct, I would regard this as a most unfortunate situation since it will disappoint the many friends of medical research who place such high hopes in the progress made under your leadership in securing federal funds for much-needed work.

This matter appears to me to be of additional moment in view of the national meeting this year in Providence of the American Academy
of Cerebral Palsy in September of 1958. It had been my hope that at this meeting the local group would have been able to report on actual progress made with the assistance of the funds allocated in this area, and although the time is understandably short it would still be possible, in my opinion, to make such progress if the necessary initiative is taken.

Would there be any possibility for me to meet with you in Providence to discuss this subject at your convenience?

Sincerely yours,

Maurice L. Silver, M.D.