# THE PROVIDENCE DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION

*Honorary Director* MARY S. GARDNER, R.N.
*Director* MILDRED LEE HATTON, R.N.
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February 23, 1959

The Honorable John E. Fogarty
200 Custom House Building
Providence
Rhode Island

Dear Representative Fogarty:

The Rhode Island Nutrition Council is studying the "Meals-on-Wheels" program which is in operation in several cities in the United States, i.e. Rochester, New York. A report of these programs is in the February issue of the Ladies' Home Journal. The purpose of the program is to provide daily a hot noon meal -- as well as a simple supper to those people living alone who have some type of disability. We feel there are many of these people, who because of their illnesses or age limitations, are living on substandard diets. We see the program as one where there is a central kitchen where food is prepared and packed and a delivery service which will take the meals to the homes.

Just now we would like to try a demonstration in one area to see its values. We are attempting to get the first costs underwritten.

A member of the Rhode Island Department of Public Assistance staff is on our committee and she furnished us with a copy of your bill #HR 1119 in reference to "independent living."

Our question is --"If your bill is passed, would it provide funds for a program such as this?"

Certainly one of the main reasons why many people have to go to institutions is because there is no one to select and prepare meals for them.

*President* CURTIS B. BROOKS *Secretary* MRS. WILLIAM OGDEN McCAGG

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I certainly would like to know of your reaction to our suggested plan and how you think it might fit into the provisions stated in your bill #HR 1119.

Sincerely,

Mildred L. Hatton

Director
(Mrs.) Mildred L. Hatton
Chairman, Meals-on-Wheels Program

MLH:B
Enc.