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January 10, 1975

SUBJECT: U.S. TO BAR FUNDS TO NURSING  
HOMES THAT IGNORE SAFETY CODE

New York State officials have been told that the Federal Government would stop paying its 50% share of Medicaid to nursing homes that violate its life safety code. Nine non-complying facilities were given 45 days notice.

Does the President approve of HEW's decision to cut off funds to nursing homes?

GUIDANCE: This is not a new program. The Federal Government and HEW have consistently barred Federal funds to nursing homes where there are life safety violations. HEW this summer took aggressive steps to terminate Federal funds to nursing homes in Pennsylvania. The action taken in New York is similar to action taken in Pennsylvania and other states.

The President does support Secretary Weinberger and HEW in their efforts to insure quality care in nursing homes through out the country.

JGC