

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 17, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary
-----THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced this intention to nominate Thomas L. Lias, of Akron, Iowa, to be Assistant Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare. His area of responsibility will be Legislation. He will succeed Stephen Kurzman who resigned effective July 2, 1976. Mr. Lias has been Special Assistant to the Secretary for External Affairs for HEW since December 1975.

Mr. Lias was born on September 27, 1934, in Akron, Iowa. He received his B.A. degree in 1956 from the University of Iowa.

In 1956, Mr. Lias was named Executive Director of the Republican National Congressional Committee. From 1969 to 1971, he served as Deputy Special Assistant to the President. He was appointed Executive Assistant to the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations in 1971, prior to becoming Executive Assistant to the Chairman of the Republican National Committee in January 1973. He was with the American Petroleum Institute in the area of Federal Relations during 1974-75.

Mr. Lias is married to the former Sharon Garrison and they have one daughter. They reside in the Washington, D.C.

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