



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
STATE CAPITOL  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS, JR.  
GOVERNOR

June 28, 1979

Hector P. Garcia, M. D.  
1315 Bright  
Corpus Christi, Texas

Dear Dr. Garcia:

I want to respond to your telegram criticizing my veto of the funds in the Appropriations Bill for the Children's Heart Program of South Texas. I want you to know that I support this program and all we are talking about is the method of funding the program. For your information in 1978 24% of the Department of Health's total statewide cardiac expenditures, that is \$934,494, went to the Children's Heart Program of South Texas. Although we cannot state how much money will be spent in fiscal 1980 I can tell you that in the first six months of fiscal 1979 some \$599,503 or 29% of the total state expenditures went to this program. Similar amounts will continue for the next two years.

In addition we know that Dr. Simpson is applying for federal funds from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for Section 340 funds of the Public Health Services Act. He is applying for some \$350,000. The Governor has instructed the office of Budget and Planning to expedite this proposal when it reaches this office. Thirdly the Governor has instructed Mr. Omar Harvey of the Texas Department of Community Affairs to search out other funds that may be placed into this program.

We are also aware that the Moody Foundation and the Wood-Johnson Foundation offer private grants for programs such as this.

I think you can see from the above that we do support the program, we do realize the good work it is doing, and feel the program will not only continue but will expand. I hope this places a different light in your mind about my intentions on this program.

Sincerely,

  
William P. Clements, Jr.  
Governor

WPC,jr:nh