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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

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MANPOWER AND WELFARE

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MANPOWER AND WELFARE DIVISION
Mr. Ahari
Mr. Henig

eport Control Desk

Congressional

The Honorable James J. Florio House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Florio:

We refer to your letter dated December 16, 1975, and subsequent discussion with you requesting that we provide the following information concerning New Jersey veterans who travel to Veterans Administration (VA) medical care facilities in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Wilmington, Delaware:

- --total reimbursements to veterans during calendar year 1975 and
- --total amount which would have been reimbursed, had VA paid veterans' parking fees.

We used statistical sampling procedures to obtain this information. We estimate, based on our sample, that during calendar year 1975, VA made 24,100 payments ranging between \$133,000 and \$175,000 to New Jersey veterans. These payments were for mileage, tolls, taxi fares, ambulance service, and vehicle rental for travel to and from VA medical facilities in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Wilmington, Delaware.

We further estimate that these payments would have increased by about \$23,000 had VA reimbursed veterans for parking fees. This entire amount would have been incurred by New Jersey veterans being treated at the Philadelphia outpatient clinic, because the Philadelphia and Wilmington VA Hospitals have free parking available for veterans.

We trust that the data provided will serve your purpose.

Sincerely yours,

BEST DOCUMENT AVAILABLE

Gregory J. Ahart Director

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