

**DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1990**

HEARINGS

BEFORE A

SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

UNITED STATES SENATE

ONE HUNDRED FIRST CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

H.R. 2990/H.R. 3566

AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1990, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Part 2 (pages 1-1257)

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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CONTENTS

MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1989

Department of Health and Human Services:	
Office of the Secretary.....	Page 1
Office of Inspector General.....	73

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1989

Department of Health and Human Services:	
Health Care Financing Administration.....	99
Social Security Administration.....	181

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1989

Department of Health and Human Services:	
Family Support Administration.....	265
Office of Human Development Services.....	343

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1989

Department of Health and Human Services:	
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health.....	397
Centers for Disease Control.....	477

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

Department of Health and Human Services:	
Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration.....	557
Health Resources and Services Administration.....	691

MONDAY, MAY 1, 1989

Department of Health and Human Services:	
National Institutes of Health.....	747
National Cancer Institute.....	825
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.....	903
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.....	931
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders..	955
National Institute of General Medical Sciences.....	963
National Library of Medicine.....	981
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.....	1005
National Institute of Dental Research.....	1039
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.....	1063
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.....	1093
National Eye Institute.....	1125
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.....	1143
National Institute on Aging.....	1159
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Dis-	
eases.....	1181
Division of Research Resources.....	1203
National Center for Nursing Research.....	1225
John E. Fogarty International Center for Advanced Study in the	
Health Sciences.....	1241

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DEAFNESS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION
DISORDERS**

STATEMENT OF DR. JAY MOSKOWITZ, ACTING DIRECTOR

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Senator HARKIN. Next is the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, and Dr. Moskowitz.

Dr. Moskowitz. Thank you, sir.

It is a privilege and a pleasure to appear before this committee as the Acting Director of the newly created National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, and to serve on behalf of the 30 million Americans who suffer from hearing, balance, speech, language, smell, taste, and other communication disorders.

At the outset, I would like to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for all the Americans who suffer from the silent handicaps within the mission of the Institute, as well as those in the deaf cultural community for your support in the Institute's establishment.

Since October 1988, we have made much progress. We have initiated a nationwide search for a permanent director. We have considered and submitted to the Secretary nominations for membership of the newly chartered Advisory Board and Advisory Council. We have identified programs in deafness and other communication disorders totaling a comparable figure of approximately \$94.8 million for transfer from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

In addition, a Task Force for the Development of a National Research Strategy for Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, composed of 11 panels of experts, was convened to assist the NIDCD in preparing a plan to initiate, expand, intensify, and coordinate the activities of the Institute respecting disorders of hearing, balance, voice, speech, language, taste, and smell.

The plan describes the state of the knowledge in the major areas of research within the purview of the new Institute, identifies emerging research opportunities, and suggests over 300 approaches to meeting current and projected needs.

Time permits me to describe just one of the most recent research accomplishments that will serve as the foundation for the activities under this new Institute.

The production of sensory cells in the ears of birds and mammals was thought to cease well before the time of birth, therefore, it was assumed that any subsequent loss of auditory and vestibular hair cells in birds and mammals, as a result of disease, drug therapy, loud noise, or aging, would permanently damage the sense of hearing and balance.