

*Mentally Retarded* 5/9/57

MR. FOGARTY.

I was deeply moved, Mr. Speaker, by a letter which I received a short time ago from Mr. David Gimbel of Brooklyn, New York. Mr. Gimbel enclosed with his letter a poem entitled "Hope" which he had written and dedicated to me. Needless to say I deeply appreciate the kind sentiments he has expressed and am grateful for his thoughtfulness.

However, I would like to take this opportunity to once again state that the impetus for my interest in starting a program of assistance for mentally retarded children originated with a group of parents of such children in my own State of Rhode Island. Their discussions with me coupled with a speech by His Excellency Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston, which I had read several years ago, caused me to explore the possibility of inaugurating federal assistance for these "exceptional children" as Archbishop Cushing has called them. It is certainly heartwarming to know that this federal action provided the spark which ignited the blaze of interest and action presently found throughout the country in this vital field. Mr. Speaker, under

leave to extend my remarks, I include the letter and the poem from

Mr. David Gimbel.

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