

December 30, 1974

Mr. Stanley Meyers, Deputy Secretary
Mental Retardation
Department of Public Welfare
P. O. Box 3675
Harrisburg, Pa. 17120

Dear Stan,

I am extremely distressed that Western State School and Hospital's residents continue to suffer due to the incompetence of the Department of Public Welfare.

I wrote to you early in March, 1974, to urge that the red tape be cut and that the long awaited air-conditioning be operational by the summer 1974. I have enclosed a copy of that letter to remind you of that request.

At a recent meeting to discuss the WSSH, GSA building program, I learned that the air-conditioning may not even be operating by the summer of 1975. The stated reason for this delay was an inadequate assessment of the electrical system by the Department's engineers.

The tragic bungling of this essential project bothers us because the severely, multiply handicapped individuals in WSSH are bothered by the heat and flies of the summer.

I beg you, Stan, do something to insure that the electrical project becomes a priority and is completed by this spring.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Virginia J. Thornburgh
President

VJT:cp
Enclosure
CC: Ford Thompson
C.A. Peters
Liaison Committee
BCC: Sally Hollyfield
ELSIE Schmidt
MARJORIE BOND

Mr. Stanley Meyers
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P.S. I wouldn't want to lie on a mat in a hot, stinky,
smelly room with flies on my body. Would you?