



Telegram

HGB114(1421)(4-031149S197)PD 07/16/79 1420

ICS IPMMTZZ CSP

7172342621 TDMT HARRISBURG PA 176 07-16 0220P EST

PMS HONORABLE RICHARD THORNBURG

MAIN CAPITAL BLDG

HARRISBURG PA

RECEIVED
DEPT. OF
PUBLIC WELFARE

JUL 19 8 56 AM '79

SECRETARY'S OFFICE

WE ARE EXTREMELY DISMAYED TO LEARN FROM SECRETARY O'BANNON OF THE
DECISION TO PETITION FOR STAYS OF PENNHURST ORDERS. WE BELIEVE YOUR
ADMINISTRATION HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO TURN THE PENNHURST SITUATION
AROUND BY IMPLEMENTING THE BRADERICK ORDERS. YOUR ACTION, HOWEVER, IS
ESSENTIALLY NEGATIVE AND WILL BE VIEWED AS SUCH BY THOSE WHO ARE
COMMITTED TO THE OBJECTIVE OF DEINSTITUTIONALIZATION.

IN VIEW OF CONCERNS WE MADE KNOWN TO YOU IN MY JULY 11TH LETTER, WE
ARE DISTURBED THAT YOU MADE THE DECISION WITHOUT ALLOWING US AN
OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS IT WITH YOU. YOU RECENTLY CRITICIZED PRESIDENT

SF-1201 (RS-69)



Telegram

CARTER FOR NOT TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE GASOLINE PROBLEM
WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF INDEPENDENT STATION OPERATORS WHEN HE WAS IN
PITTSBURGH. IF YOU FEEL THAT CONSULTATION IS THIS IMPORTANT, DON'T WE
MERIT IT AS MUCH AS THE GASOLINE OPERATORS?

WHEN YOU SPOKE TO OUR CONVENTION, YOU SAID WE WOULD ALWAYS HAVE A
FRIEND IN HARRISBURG AS LONG AS YOU ARE IN OFFICE. I'M AFRAID OUR
MEMBERS WILL BE SKEPTICAL OF THIS ASSURANCE IN VIEW OF WHAT WE HAVE
LEARNED TODAY.

ELTON ATWATER, PRESIDENT/ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS PENNSYLVANIA
NIA
NNNN