1981

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Claiborne Pell

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Mr. Raymond F. Mitchell
Program Director
Family Service
Family Center
35 Summer Street
Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

Thank you very much for your recent letter in regard to the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Block Grant.

As you know, the Congress in its Reconciliation Bill recommends a figure of $491,000,000 for this block grant. I voted against this legislation because I believed that social programs were being asked to pay an unfair share of the burden. Therefore, a further reduction would be devastating and I will vigorously oppose any such move.

I share your alarm as to the effect that any additional reductions would have in Rhode Island. The great strides that have been made in extending the availability of community services for the victims of alcohol and drug abuse must be sustained.

I appreciate knowing your views and can assure you that I will continue to do all within my power to see that this block grant is funded as fully as possible.

With warm regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

September 29, 1981

AC/jb