

Hotel Bel-Air

701 STONE CANYON ROAD
LOS ANGELES 24

April 1, 1948

Senator Claude Pepper
Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Claude:

I have just wired you to get the dates of the National Heart Institute hearings. Understand from the National Heart Committee in New York that Senator Smith has promised hearings this month.

I am very anxious that they be held as soon as possible so that it can be voted on and appropriations gotten before it is too late to get anything going this year. I remember all the delays we had in the past on the cancer legislation, and I am sure everything will be more difficult this year on account of the political and foreign complications.

Florence and I are going to be at our ranch, the Z Triangle ranch at Kirkland, Arizona, from this Saturday, the 3rd, until I leave the 12th to go back to New York with Albert. Think Florence will stay on, but she will be coming to Washington for the National Health Assembly, I'm sure.

These are very trying days for you, I know. Albert told me that he saw a strong statement by you on the Russian situation, which I am very happy that you made as I feel that it will make people understand your position better. I do hope that Truman will meet with Attlee and Stalin and try to come to some real understanding if that is possible. In any case, it must be tried, as I think you pointed out.

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I feel that the National Heart Institute legislation can be one of the most important that can be done for our country. More than twice as many people die each year due to diseases of the heart than were killed during the four and one-half years of war. Many hundreds of thousands of these deaths were unnecessary or lives could have been prolonged if more had been known through research about treatment and diagnosis.

The same kind of work that the National Cancer Institute is now doing must be done on an even larger scale with the Heart Institute, but I think the National Cancer Institute has started a pattern in the last year that will be helpful.

Do write us at the ranch and tell us what is going on, and how you and Mildred both are.

Yours,

Mrs. Albert D. Lasker