

## **REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

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**Howard Watson,  
Chairperson**

The nominating committee submits the following slate of officers for consideration:

Chairman — John Crandall  
Vice-Chairman — William Peach  
Secretary — Mildred Johnson  
Treasurer — Charles McKinley

During the time the committee was preparing this slate of officers, confusion was evident as to the wishes of the Congress not to establish another organization. This committee, however, was requested to submit nominations for officers and this it has attempted to do.

WHEREAS the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation has unstintingly assisted the several organizations of the deaf community, and

WHEREAS the CSAVR has thoroughly studied the significant problems confronting the deaf community in the United States, and

WHEREAS the CSAVR has shared the informative findings with the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation and the National Rehabilitation Association Task Force on Deafness.

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation give a vote of gratitude for the assistance of the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation.

WHEREAS the National Rehabilitation Association Task Force on Deafness has been instrumental to the establishment of the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation, and

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WHEREAS the NRA Task Force on Deafness has developed tremendous insights and profound understanding of the problems of deafness, and

WHEREAS the NRA Task Force on Deafness has informed the Nation of the vocational rehabilitation needs of deaf persons,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation extend a statement of deep appreciation for the work well done.

WHEREAS casefinding and referral systems frequently are inadequate for bringing together deaf persons and the needed rehabilitation services,

THEREFORE be it resolved that rehabilitation counselors with the deaf increase their efforts to disseminate VR information to and develop close associations with the various sources of referral.

WHEREAS many professionals in the field of health services — physicians, nurses, et alia — are generally unaware of the special needs of deaf people and are usually unable to communicate with them, and

WHEREAS many hospitals are not staffed to facilitate communication with the deaf patients, especially in emergency situations,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation go on record as supporting all organizations striving for public education and information on deafness through collaboration with organizations such as the American Medical Association and the American Hospital Association.

WHEREAS television is an influential source of information but little effort has been made to make TV information understandable to deaf people, and

WHEREAS television serves as a source of dissemination of daily news and, more importantly, of emergency communication,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation recommend the use of an interpreter and/or mechanical equipment to make information provided through TV understandable to deaf people, by having the delegates from this Congress, upon returning to their respective states, encourage the use of interpreters and mechanical equipment during the transmission of local reports and special bulletins on TV, and by calling upon the Deafness Research & Training Center (NYU), KRON-TV4, the Office of Deafness and Communicative Disorders, and Media Services and Captioned Films for supporting data to influence decision-making at the local level.

WHEREAS many parents and organizations of deaf individuals and professionals have given much of their time and energies toward making this Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation an outstanding success,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the CODR express its appreciation to each and every State delegate, program speaker and organization for their part in making this Congress successful.

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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a special vote of thanks be extended chairman Jack Hutchison for his outstanding chairmanship in assuring a well-run conference.

**WHEREAS** the on-going intent, structure and goals of the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation are not clearly defined, and

**WHEREAS** this lack of clarity leaves many present CODR delegates unsure of the future of the Congress and its relationships to other organizations,

**THEREFORE** be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation become an on-going Task Force with the offices of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer to develop basic concepts and carry on the work of the Congress until the next Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation.

**WHEREAS** there is concern that the label Severely Handicapped used in the 1973 VR Act and in the Model State Plan to describe deaf people all-inclusive, that this could be a source of misinformation to other public and private agencies not concerned with VR, and that misuse of this label could cause financial and social hardship to deaf persons who do not have severe handicaps, and

**WHEREAS** for public information purposes VR agencies should differentiate between deaf persons with no additional handicaps and deaf persons with additional handicapping disabilities,

**THEREFORE** be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation encourage the Federal Rehabilitation Services Administration Office of Deafness and Communicative Disorders to develop information in order to prevent misuse of the severely handicapped label to the detriment of deaf people.

**WHEREAS** there is a tendency for rehabilitation efforts to fail at the placement step, that is to rejection of the job placement function as a part of the rehabilitation process,

**THEREFORE** be it resolved that the State VR agencies promote the skills of counselors who have special training in placing deaf clients.

**WHEREAS** VR services for deaf people and funds available for such services vary greatly from State to State,

**THEREFORE** be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation urge the States to investigate and act upon ways and means whereby each State can determine the needed services for deaf people, the costs of such services and develop adequate funding for meeting these service needs.

**WHEREAS** organizations serving deaf people are often unaware of the program priorities established for the deaf by the State VR agency and full

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utilization of services by organizations on behalf of deaf persons is often not effected, and

WHEREAS there is a need for organizations for the deaf to ascertain what priorities are established for services for them and integrate with these their own priorities,

THEREFORE be it resolved that frequent meetings involving deaf consumers and VR administrators be held to keep lines of communication open and insure that deaf persons are aware of what services are available to them.

WHEREAS there is a need to organize groups of deaf people into social, recreational, professional and other groups in order to present a united front to State and local government when services for the deaf are being sought,

THEREFORE be it resolved that there be established better communication among the deaf by bringing in community action people to explain the need for group action, conduct workshops where literature is available and principles of leadership are discussed and become involved with organized groups already existing that have some connection with deafness such as parents, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation implement this resolution in cooperation with the National Association of the Deaf.

WHEREAS there is a lack of deaf leadership to direct and administer programs for the deaf throughout the United States, and

WHEREAS small urban and rural areas are especially lacking in these key people, and

WHEREAS there is a need for more qualified and trained deaf people to become involved in leadership within the deaf community and in organizations serving the deaf, and

WHEREAS there is an absence of organizations of and for deaf persons in many areas, precluding a collective voice on behalf of the deaf for creating positive changes in services for deaf people,

THEREFORE be it resolved that organizations such as the Leadership Training Program, TRIPOD, PRWAD and others hold workshops and in-depth programs aimed at leadership and involvement of deaf persons at all levels in their States and that where possible, Federal, State and local funds be sought to implement these efforts.

WHEREAS some States are too large for one organization to meet the needs of the deaf on a Statewide and local level, and

WHEREAS these needs vary from community to community and the State organization may be unaware of the individual problems inherent in each community, and

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WHEREAS there is a need for local groups to organize and represent the deaf in each community, such organization preferably being within the framework of a state organization such as the Council of Organizations Serving the Deaf,

THEREFORE be it resolved that chapters of state-wide organizations be established in each community having a sufficient number of persons to do so.

WHEREAS deaf individuals are frequently unserved or underserved by VR agencies due to the unavailability of special counselors for the deaf,

THEREFORE be it resolved that each State VR agency employ rehabilitation counselors with the deaf (RCDs) who understand the problems and needs of deaf people, are sensitive to deaf people as working individuals and can communicate effectively with them, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this objective be accomplished by Federal legislation as represented by the VR act and its amendments.

WHEREAS communication barriers preclude reasonable utilization of community resources by the general deaf population, and

WHEREAS the hearing-impaired population is fully entitled to all services and protection provided by tax-supported agencies,

THEREFORE be it resolved that all State legislatures and local community planning boards be urged to provide funds for qualified personal and social counseling services for deaf and hearing-impaired persons.

WHEREAS each State association of the deaf and other interested groups have little information on the present and potential categories of funding available on the State level for deaf and hearing-impaired persons now receiving vocational rehabilitation services,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation make an urgent plea to the Directors of the State divisions of vocational rehabilitation to make available to State associations of the deaf and other interested groups, on request, appropriate data on current and potential funding sources so that these associations and groups will be in a position to support the DVR appropriation requests for severely handicapped deaf and other deaf citizens.

WHEREAS an assessment of legislative needs in individual States is needed and

WHEREAS continuing knowledge of these needs is required by the DVR Advisory Councils on Deafness in these States, and

WHEREAS supporting organizations and their members at the local, State and national levels need this information for more effective planning and service programs development,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation request that the NRA Task Force on Deafness establish and perform an on-

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going legislative needs survey with an accompanying analysis and distribution of the information back to the DVR Advisory Councils on Deafness for their use.

WHEREAS generally current Federal authorizations that exist will be utilized only on the initiative of each State DVR agency, and

WHEREAS State DVR agencies need to develop plans and proposals to Federal offices to obtain finances for services, facilities and resources for severely handicapped deaf persons, and

WHEREAS State DVR agencies must plan now for continued State funds to serve severely handicapped deaf people following the expiration of special projects with set fiscal year limits,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation urge each State DVR agency to devise new fiscal plans for serving severely handicapped deaf citizens on a continuing basis.

WHEREAS improved educational services and facilities will prevent many of the problems that create difficulties for deaf persons during their early developmental years,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation goes on record urging all State Advisory Councils on Deafness, and all local, State and national organizations working for improved services for deaf persons, to work for the provision of adequate public education by competent, qualified teachers of the deaf for all deaf individuals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that appropriate local and State agencies provide programs that will permit a choice of either day or residential school educational services, in order to permit meeting the needs of deaf individuals.

WHEREAS often rehabilitation cases of deaf clients are not followed up in sufficient depth or over a sufficient period of time before or after a case is closed, thus resulting in failure of the deaf person to achieve his or her maximum vocational potential,

THEREFORE be it resolved that special efforts be undertaken and time limits extended by legislative mandate to enable counselors to be sure a deaf client is satisfied with his work, has developed good relationships with his employer and co-workers, and has reached a stable level of effective career adjustment.

WHEREAS most State VR agencies leave the final decision of hiring counselors to fill vacancies in the area of service to deaf persons to district supervisors, and

WHEREAS most supervisors are ignorant of the abilities of deaf persons and/or of deafness in general, and

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WHEREAS supervisors typically give first consideration to the ability to hear and use the phone when receiving applications, and

WHEREAS many capable deaf persons are then denied an opportunity to serve deaf people as counselors,

THEREFORE be it resolved that when applications are being screened and the deaf applicant has qualifications equal to that of a hearing applicant with respect to education and experience then the deaf applicant should be given preferential consideration for the position.

WHEREAS there is a need for feedback from delegates to this first Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation regarding the degree of success of implementation of the Model State Plan in the States and to provide basic data for the proposed second Congress, and

WHEREAS the use of questionnaires is an effective way of receiving such feedback,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the delegates of the CODR ask the National Rehabilitation Association Task Force on Deafness to develop and distribute a questionnaire to the delegates no later than six months from this date, February 17, 1974.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this questionnaire be returned within one month and the information obtained to be published in an appropriate publication.

WHEREAS the circumstances of deaf people in the United States have traditionally been viewed as the concern only of special education institutions and DVR agencies, and

WHEREAS the deaf people of America as taxpayers and citizens are entitled to the same levels of quality services as are available to hearing people from Federal, State and local helping agencies, and

WHEREAS most public funds that are used to support service agencies most often are not used to provide services to deaf persons,

THEREFORE be it resolved that State associations of deaf people, parent groups, educators, VR coordinators, religious workers and others investigate, evaluate and encourage the development of services from all agencies now providing services to deaf persons, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation urge State VR agencies to make efforts to fully encourage the concept of "tapping the resources and shaping the responsibilities of other existing public and private programs" (Model State Plan, Chapter VI, page 19).

WHEREAS State divisions of vocational rehabilitation are among the prime providers of services for deaf people, and

WHEREAS the Model State Plan affirms the need for each rehabilitation counselor with the deaf (RCD) to be fully able to communicate with deaf

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people and also to be fully knowledgeable concerning the special needs of the deaf.

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation encourage all organizations serving deaf persons to press for attainment of the objectives outlined in the Model State Plan as they pertain to rehabilitation counselors with the deaf.

WHEREAS there is a national need for short-term in-service training programs for professional people who are not familiar with the various aspects of deafness, and

WHEREAS improved information and referral services are needed to complement the casefinding efforts of VR agencies on behalf of the deaf population,

THEREFORE be it resolved that communications by the President of the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation be sent to every governor, State legislature and VR directors and coordinators advocating the utilization of the Model State Plan.

WHEREAS the general public is largely unaware and uninformed of the needs, strengths and weaknesses of deaf people in today's society, and

WHEREAS the general public appears unaware of the capabilities of deaf individuals, and

WHEREAS the hearing-impaired individual is generally a contributing member of society,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation request that the President of the United States, by executive proclamation, set aside a week to be known as National Deafness Awareness Week for the purpose of focusing attention on the continuing needs of the deaf people of America.

WHEREAS the first Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation has been a successful undertaking, and

WHEREAS there is a need for further, more definitive planning and work to be done in the area of deafness rehabilitation,

THEREFORE be it resolved that a second Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation be held as a follow-up of the first Congress within two years of this date, February 17, 1974.

WHEREAS the National Rehabilitation Association Task Force on Deafness suggested, planned, sponsored and conducted this historic first Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation, and

WHEREAS the aforementioned group enlisted the aid of all the national organizations serving the deaf, and

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WHEREAS this undertaking has included representation from consumers, parents and service groups involved in the needs of deaf people,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the delegates of the first Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation express their deep gratitude to the NRA and the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation and encourage the NRA to plan and direct the second Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation.

WHEREAS there is a definite need for consumer involvement in the area of planning and implementation of services for the deaf,

THEREFORE be it resolved that during the second Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation there be a panel presentation by deaf recipients of VR services from various States for the purpose of discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of rehabilitation services.

WHEREAS national and local budget and personnel limitations often prevent the development and implementation of programs to provide appropriate services to deaf persons,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Congress on Deafness Rehabilitation go on record as supporting national and State legislative reviews of State services for the deaf and the development of appropriate budgets for establishing and operating budgets as needed to meet the needs of deaf people as recommended by organizations of and for deaf people.

WHEREAS deaf people, because of communication barriers, are often denied access to meaningful and effective rehabilitation services within most States, and

WHEREAS it is the Congressionally-mandated responsibility of State DVR agencies to support and assume adequate and effective delivery of services to all handicapped people, including the best,

THEREFORE be it resolved that each State agency be urged to employ at the administrative level a qualified staff person who shall have the responsibility and authority for planning, developing and implementing structured identifiable programs of vocational rehabilitation services for deaf persons.

WHEREAS services and programs needed for deaf persons are frequently developed without adequate involvement of deaf people and parents of deaf children and not having adequate awareness of the problems and unique needs of deaf people, and

WHEREAS an effective vehicle is needed at the State level in order to promote public and professional awareness of services to deaf people, and

WHEREAS representation from deaf consumers organizations, parent groups, professional organizations, State agencies and other appropriate

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groups of interested people must be brought together to plan and implement the needed services and programs,

THEREFORE be it resolved that as a first priority State Advisory Councils on Deafness be established through legislative action, appointment or other means by which each State will insure implementation of the services required to meet the Model State Plan.