

Pollock Discloses Major Step Toward Hospital Facilities

WASHINGTON, D.C. —Congressman Howard W. Pollock (R-Alaska) disclosed a major step forward in providing adequate hospital facilities in Western Alaska that will almost triple the available services in the area.

Present plans call for a new Public Health Service 30-bed hospital in the Village of St. Mary's; a 25-bed facility at Unalakleet; and a major expansion of the Bethel Hospital to 100 beds.

Congressman Pollock said he was "highly gratified that the Public Health Service is recognizing the urgent need for these new and improved facilities."

In addition to providing normal hospital services, these new and improved facilities will also offer dental care, individual home visits by Public Health Service nurses, and community health workers and sanitarians who will assist the Villages in all aspects of health and sanitation needs.

The completion of these three major facilities is projected within a period of five

years. The Congressman stated that he intended to press diligently for the earliest possible completion date.

"I am cognizant of the problems facing Alaskans in rural areas who are in need of adequate medical assistance, and I am most encouraged to learn that we have achieved some degree of success," Pollock concluded.