

The clinic's court petition alleges that the health network provides an incentive for doctors to deny care and reject sick patients, which would be a violation of state law.

"I don't think that you would want your doctor to think about whether it would cost him money personally if he prescribes medicine that you need," said David Humphrey, the clinic's administrator. "We think it's wrong, and we've been advised that it's illegal."

Under Harris' contracts with its physicians, the company pays doctors a set monthly fee to provide all necessary care to each Harris HMO patient. That fee, which is a percentage of each member's premium, ranges from \$11.87 to \$15.19 per month.

In addition, doctors are entitled to spend 9.6 percent of each premium dollar on prescriptions. If they exceed that budget, the contract requires them to pay Harris 35 percent of the additional cost. If they spend less than the budget allowed, they receive a bonus.

Harris has awarded \$338,000 in bonuses during the last quarter, Dr. Cavazos said. He didn't disclose the amount of fines assessed to doctors.

According to a confidential memo obtained by The Dallas Morning News, Harris doctors exceeded their pharmacy budget by more than 26 percent last year. Internists, who generally treat sicker patient, surpassed their budget by 46 percent, the memo says.

"I've been amazed at the number of people who have been suffering and paying this in silence," said Robin Weinman, executive director of the Tarrant County Medical Society. "I don't know how they're surviving, quite frankly."

Internist Karen Spetman said she was billed \$10,000 by Harris in July for exceeding her pharmacy budget during the first six months of the year. That accounts for about 15 percent of the fees she has received from Harris, she said.

"Nobody works for free," she said. "But right now, that is what I'm doing. I'm not even working for free—I'm working for a negative number. I am paying money for the privilege of practicing medicine."

Dr. Spetman, the only Harris internist in the Fort Worth suburb of Willow Park, said she has met repeatedly with Harris representatives to explain her problems. When she reviewed her patient charts and prescriptions with a Harris pharmacy director, she was told that she was making the correct medical decisions, she said.

Harris officials did not contest Dr. Spetman's claims. But they said doctors in the system need to realize that increased efficiency and short-term sacrifices will eventually lead to long-term savings.

"When you get a bill, you're hopping mad," said Harris spokeswoman Lisa O'Steen. "But if you look at it in the long term, because Harris has such a high retention of patients and doctors, this is a savings you see over a long period of time."

#### TRIBUTE TO SPECIAL AGENT VITO S. DeMARCO

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 4, 1997*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Special Agent Vito S. DeMarco of the U.S. Treasury Department, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, on the occasion of his retirement. After 30 years of diligent service in law enforcement, Special Agent

DeMarco has built a distinguished reputation of protecting the United States and her citizens.

Special Agent DeMarco began his career with the Office of Naval Intelligence in 1967, after graduating from Fairfield University in Fairfield, CT. After his assignment to the Naval Investigative Service in New York City, Special Agent DeMarco spent the last 28 years of his tenure with the Boston Field Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms.

During his tenure with BATF, Special Agent DeMarco distinguished himself by serving on several task forces, including the Sky Marshall Program during the 1970's. He has made his expertise available to the U.S. Secret Service, serving on protection details during the Presidential campaigns of Presidents Ford, Carter, Bush, and Clinton. In addition, he has contributed to the protection details of several foreign heads of state and conducted investigations into illicit firearms trafficking and numerous explosives and arson cases.

Special Agent DeMarco also served with distinction in the U.S. Navy Reserves, from which he retired in 1996 with the rank of commander. His 33 years of naval service included his activation for the Persian Gulf War, in which he commanded a special security division.

Special Agent DeMarco also demonstrated his steadfast commitment to his country and community by volunteering to work with the Marine Cadets of America. Mr. DeMarco has given a great deal of his time and energy to this organization, and has served on the board of its national office.

Law enforcement personnel serve our country by putting their lives on the line, ensuring the safety of our citizens. We owe them all a great debt of gratitude, so it is with the deepest appreciation and pride that I salute Special Agent DeMarco today.

#### U.S. EXTENDS ITS LEADING EFFORT TO REMOVE WORLD'S LAND MINES

**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 4, 1997*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues the editorial which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on November 4, 1997.

#### U.S. EXTENDS ITS LEADING EFFORT TO REMOVE WORLD'S LAND MINES

The U.S. government has made a considerable effort to prevent people around the world from being killed or injured by anti-personnel mines. To the credit of the Clinton administration, the United States is about to do more.

President Clinton has announced a U.S.-led campaign to rid the world of the devices in the next dozen years. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said the United States will contribute \$80 million this year to an international effort to clean up minefields, double the U.S. contribution the previous year.

Some people might think a contradiction exists. The U.S. government is the major holdout from a proposed treaty banning mines. Clinton has said that the United States won't sign unless the treaty is amend-

ed to allow continued use of the devices along the U.S.-guarded demilitarized zone separating North and South Korea. A committee that won the Nobel Peace Prize for pushing for a global anti-mine treaty has treated the Clinton policy—and the president himself—with scorn and contempt.

The biggest problem with land mines has its roots in the past, however, not in the future behavior of the United States. An estimated 100 million of the explosive devices remain in the ground in more than 60 countries, from Bosnia to Angola and from El Salvador to Cambodia. Many of the mines were planted in haste by guerrilla forces—people who neither sign global treaties nor leave any record of where they lay their mines.

About 26,000 people are killed or injured by the devices every year, many of them children at play. This is the problem that the plan announced by Clinton and Ms. Albright is designed to solve by 2010.

American forces have already drastically curtailed their use of land mines. Part of the reason is that U.S. mines caused many U.S. casualties. The mines still in use are mostly manufactured to lose their explosive force after a few weeks. The locations are carefully recorded. The mines are removed when no longer needed.

As to U.S. reservations about the treaty: The situation on the Korean peninsula has few parallels anywhere in the world. A superpower that has been entrusted by peace-loving nations—and is expected by them—to prevent war in Korea is hardly going to add to the unmapped minefields that are causing the 26,000 casualties a year. The United States isn't out of line with its request to continue using land mines in Korea if it signs the treaty.

Indeed, treaties don't bind guerrilla forces. They are often ignored by aggressors. A land mine treaty, even if signed by the United States, would guarantee little in the long run.

On the other hand, an international cleanup of minefields could do a lot to reduce mine-related casualties. The campaign to find mined areas and remove the explosives safely is a noble humanitarian effort. U.S. participation is well worthwhile.

#### ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE HEALTH CENTER PROGRAMS

SPEECH OF

**HON. LOUIS STOKES**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 1997*

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from, Illinois, Congressman DANNY K. DAVIS, for sponsoring this special order this evening. I am very pleased to join him in this discussion on an issue of great importance to the Congress and this Nation—community health centers.

The recently enacted Balanced Budget Act of 1997 will make nearly \$13 billion in Medicaid cuts from fiscal year 1998 through fiscal year 2002. This will severely impact the way in which health care is financed and delivered across the Nation. The numbers of uninsured Americans and the cost of health care services are continuing to rise. Yet, the availability of financial resources to address these concerns is diminishing. Thus, we must carefully consider community health centers as a model of community-directed health care for our changing health care system.