

physicians who advertise their prices and compete for patients, but would allow the American Medical Association to set guidelines to prevent false and misleading claims.

Department of Education

The first secretary of the newly created U.S. Department of Education

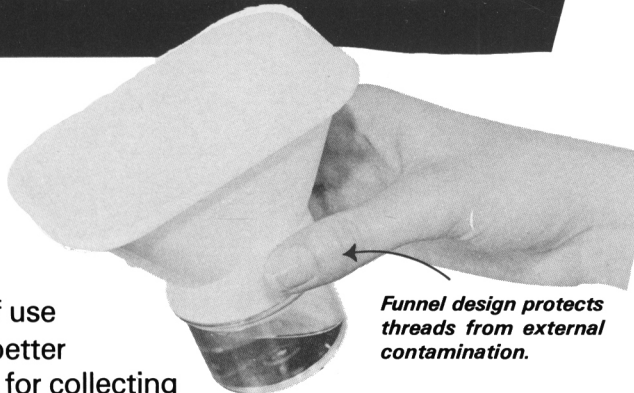
is Shirley M. Hufstedler, a judge on the ninth U.S. circuit court of appeals in California and a strong proponent of civil liberties. The new Department, created out of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, will have only limited jurisdiction; state and local governments will still control education policy.

Health Maintenance Organizations

HMOs are gaining increased interest from Capitol Hill. Most prepaid health plans were exempted from the new planning law; appropriations for fiscal 1980 are almost double those of 1979; a series of bills measures other insurance plans against HMOs; HMOs are prominent in most national health insurance proposals. HEW's 10-year strategy is to increase nationwide HMO membership from the current 7.5 billion enrollees to 19 million.

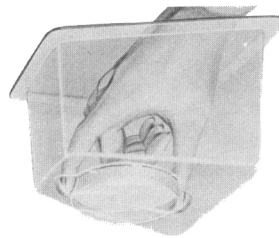
The House Ways and Means Committee has adopted the HEW proposal that HMOs be reimbursed at 95% of the fee-for-service rates allowed by Medicare. Traditionally, HMOs cost the government about 20% less; this "bonus" payment would provide additional benefits for elderly HMO members. The full House is expected to approve this proposal, but Senate acceptance without major revisions is considered unlikely.

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- provides better technique for collecting contamination-free specimen
- choice of Iodophor or Castile soap towelettes

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