

HALLORAN TRANSFER HALT ASKED AT ALBANY

**Island Legislators Join
In Resolution Seeking
Delay to Dec., 1952**

(Advance Albany Bureau)

ALBANY — Staten Island's three legislators today combined in a move that would halt the transfer of the 750 patients now in Halloran VA Hospital until Dec. 31, 1951.

In a resolution presented to both houses, Senator John M. Braisted Jr. and Assemblymen William N. Reidy and Edward V. Curry stated that "the State of New York and the Veterans Administration violated their promise and agreement to those ailing veterans" when the state and the administration agreed to terminate the lease on Feb. 15, 1951. The property belongs to Willowbrook State School.

There are 750 patients in the hospital now, the legislators stated, and they should not be moved before Dec. 31, 1951 "only when and if the facilities of the Manhattan Veterans Hospital, a unit of the New York University-Bellevue Medical Center, is completed before that time.

87 Are Paraplegics

Eighty-seven of the ailing veterans are paraplegics, the lawmakers stated, and the proposed action of the state and the Veterans Administration will "work a hardship on them and their families."

The patients "merely seek to remain" in Halloran Hospital but their rehabilitation "will be definitely retarded because of the separation from their loved ones and the lack of adequate and similar facilities in other institutions, many of which are overcrowded and incapable of administering proper treatment," the legislators charged.

The resolution asks the Legislature to ask Congress and the Veterans Administration to refrain from transferring the sick and wounded war veterans from Halloran. Copies will be sent to Governor Dewey, President Truman and other high officials in Washington as well as to each member of Congress.