

Hint U.S. Aid For Mental Hospitals

Hinting federal aid was forthcoming, Sen. Jacob Javits said today that at his request a group of experts from the Health, Education and Welfare Dept. would visit the Willowbrook State School and other State Dept. of Mental Hygiene facilities affected by budget cut-backs.

The federal experts will meet with state officials to determine which programs for the mentally retarded might receive increased federal aid, Javits told a press conference at his 110 E. 45th St. office.

Willowbrook on Staten Island and other institutions for the mentally handicapped have received considerable public attention in recent weeks as the result of what some legislators have called inadequate care for patients because of budget restrictions.

Last Thursday, following numerous news reports of improper care for patients, Gov. Rockefeller announced that Willowbrook would get an additional 300 nurses and attendants as part of \$5 million that would be restored to the state mental hygiene budget for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Javits said the federal group of experts was organized after he had spoken to HEW Secretary Elliot Richardson, "who has assured me that the full resources of

HEW are to be made available."