

Office of the White House Press Secretary  
(Vail, Colorado)

---

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 939 which amends the Admission Act for the State of Idaho to broaden the conditions under which certain public lands can be exchanged.

Under provisions of the Idaho Admission Act of 1890, the State received Federal land grants for educational purposes under the condition that such lands could be disposed of only by public sale with the proceeds dedicated to a permanent school fund. As amended, the 1890 Act further authorizes the lease of such lands for periods not to exceed 10 years, and in the case of an oil, gas, or other hydrocarbon lease, for as long thereafter as such product is produced.

S. 939 amends the Idaho Admission Act, as amended, to:

- a. allow the State to exchange such educational lands for lands of approximately equal value or, where the values are not approximately equal, for a payment of money as well;
  - b. permit the completion of exchanges between the State and the Federal Government on which agreement has already been reached; and,
  - c. stipulate that in the case of an oil, gas, other hydrocarbon, or geothermal resource and associated by-products lease, the period for the lease could be for as long as the product is produced in paying quantities or the lessee is, in good faith, conducting well drilling or construction operations.
-