

June 26, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H.R. 6950 -- Legislative Branch Appropriation Act for 1976 and the transition quarter ending September 30, 1976 -- which appropriates, for activities of the Congress and other legislative branch organizations, \$827,546,570 for fiscal year 1976 and \$207,391,365 for the transition period, July 1 through September 30, 1976.

In total, the 1976 bill provides \$59,853,742 or seven percent more than the 1975 bill. The major increases and decreases follow:

	<u>Change from 1975 in millions of dollars and percentage of change</u>
- Senate.....	+11.4 (+10%)
-- increased funds are for (1) additional staff to assist Senators in committee work as recently authorized by S. Res. 60, (2) a full telecommunications network to provide a comprehensive legislative information system in the Senators' offices, (3) travel expenses for Senators' office employees, and (4) salary increases for top Senate officials and employees.	
- House of Representatives.....	+20.9 (+19%)
-- reflects committee staff expansion and increased cost of equipment, office space rental, and pay and related costs.	
- Joint Items.....	+9.0 (+19%)
-- reflects increased costs for reimbursement to the Postal Service for official mail costs, staff expansion, and funds for the newly-authorized American Indian Policy Review Commission.	

Change from 1975
in millions of dollars
and percentage of change

- Office of Technology Assessment..... +1.8
(+38%)
 - increased funds are for assessment activities in the fields of energy; food; health; materials; oceans; transportation; and technology and world trade.

- Architect of the Capitol..... -28.0
(-40%)
 - the 1975 appropriations included one-time funding for two major projects--construction of an extension to the New Senate Office Building and conversion of a former FBI building to House use. The decreases from 1975--including the \$30.8 million decrease attributable to these nonrecurring construction and conversion projects--are partially offset by increases including \$2.7 million for the elimination of architectural barriers to the physically handicapped and \$.8 million for a pilot demonstration program of new furniture and equipment for the Senate Office Buildings Complex.

- Library of Congress..... +17.4
(+17%)
 - reflects staff expansion and full funding of multi-state centers for blind and physically handicapped readers.

- Government Printing Office..... +16.2
(+12%)
 - the largest single increase is to cover deficiencies for printing and binding incurred in fiscal years 1973-1975.

Change from 1975
in millions of dollars
and percentage of change

- General Accounting Office..... +10.9
(+8%)
 - reflects staff expansion.

- Other minor increases..... +.2
(+7%)