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OCTOBER 10, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary (Dallas, Texas)

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H.R. 13035 -- Sea Grant Program Improvement Act of 1976, which extends and expands the National Sea Grant Program in the Department of Commerce.

Under the National Sea Grant College and Program Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-688), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NCAA) of the Department of Commerce, through the use of matching grants, supports marine resource programs at a network of sea grant colleges. The Sea Grant Program consists of marine related research, education, training, and advisory service activities in the coastal and Great Lakes States.

H.R. 13035 amends that Act to:

-- Authorizes appropriations of \$50 million in 1977 for the basic Sea Grant Program;

-- create, with a \$5 million authorized funding level in 1977, a new categorical national projects program;

-- and establish in 1977 a new \$3 million categorical grant program for international cooperative assistance.

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