

OCTOBER 15, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 2212 -- Crime Control Act of 1976 which will extend authority for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) for three years; establish certain new categorical programs; mandate new State planning requirements to ensure increased funding for court programs; strengthen civil rights compliance procedures; exempt high level Drug Enforcement Administration staff from the civil service laws; and require annual authorizations for all programs of the Department of Justice.

- Funding - S. 2212 extends authorizations for the LEAA program for three years: \$880 million in 1977 and \$800 million annually for 1978 and 1979.
- Antitrust - A special categorical grant program to fund State antitrust enforcement programs will be established with an annual appropriations authorization of \$10 million each year for 1977, 1978, and 1979.
- Program Administration - The enrolled bill makes numerous amendments affecting the administration of the LEAA program. The more significant amendments:
 - Make clear that LEAA is subject to the overall authority, policy direction and control of the Attorney General. Authority for the appointment of the Director of LEAA's National Institute for Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice will also be vested in the Attorney General in lieu of the Administrator of LEAA.
 - Make changes in the State planning process by requiring that State legislatures approve the establishment of planning agencies and be given an opportunity, along with local citizens, of reviewing the plans.
 - Mandate increased judicial participation in developing the State comprehensive plan to ensure greater emphasis on improving State and local court systems.
 - Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) - This provision will remove all DEA supergrade positions and GS-15 management, supervisory, and executive assistant positions from the competitive civil service.
 - Term of the FBI Director - This provision, which is retroactive to July 1, 1973, limits the term of office for the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to a single ten-year term.

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