

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 19, 1974

The Speaker of the
House of Representatives

Sir:

I ask the Congress to consider proposed supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year 1975 in the amount of \$56,775,000 for the Department of Commerce.

The details of this proposal are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, with whose comments and observations I concur.

Respectfully,

GERALD R. FORD

Enclosure

The President

The White House

Sir:

I have the honor to submit for your consideration a proposed supplemental appropriation for the fiscal year 1975 in the amount of \$56,775,000 for the Economic Development Administration, as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

Administration of Economic Development Assistance Programs

For an additional amount for "Administration of economic development assistance programs," \$5,275,000: Provided, That the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be available only upon enactment into law of H.R. 14683 or similar legislation.

Economic Development Assistance Programs

For an additional amount for "Economic development assistance programs," including programs authorized by Title IX of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended, \$51,500,000: Provided, That funds apportioned to the States under the provisions of Section 304 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended, shall remain available until expended: Provided further, That the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be available only upon enactment into law of H.R. 14683 or similar legislation.

The proposed supplemental will provide funds for the economic development efforts provided for in H.R. 14683, the two year extension of the Public Works and Economic Development Act which is now pending enrollment. It will provide the administrative and program funds for the Economic Development Administration to implement a number of new innovative programs designed to promote a more flexible approach to economic development. Additional funds for the Regional Action Planning Commissions are not being requested at

this time. Funding requirements for the Commissions are still being evaluated. The proposed appropriation language will assure that States will receive and be able to utilize all funds to which they are entitled under Section 304(a) of the Act. This provision is in direct response to Section 304(b). This proposal will be absorbed within current budget resources and will not increase the 1975 budget totals.

I have carefully reviewed the proposal for appropriations contained in this document and am satisfied that this request is necessary at this time. I recommend, therefore, that this proposal be transmitted to the Congress.

Respectfully,

Director