FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 11, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate James D. Keast, of Creve Coeur, Missouri, to be General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture. He will succeed John A. Knebel who resigned effective April 1, 1975.

Since August 1972, Mr. Keast has been a Partner in the firm of Armstrong, Teasdale, Kramer & Vaughn. He was Assistant General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture from August 1971 until August 1972. From 1960 until his appointment at the Agriculture Department, he was General Counsel of DOANE Agricultural Services, Inc.

Mr. Keast was born on February 13, 1930, in Macedonia, Iowa and received his B.S. degree from Iowa State University in 1953. He graduated from the State University of Iowa with a J.D. degree in 1960. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1953 to 1957.

Mr. Keast is married to the former Marcia Bolton and they have three children.