

AUGUST 1, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President last night returned to the House of Representatives without his signature H.R. 11873 which would have authorized and directed the Secretary of Agriculture to provide up to \$47 million annually in categorical grants to State educational institutions for animal health research programs and facilities.

The basic purpose of the research would have been (1) to solve health problems of fresh water fish and shellfish, domestic livestock, poultry and other income producing animals, and (2) to promote research on population control of livestock predators and other animals. Institutions eligible for grants would include all accredited colleges of veterinary medicine or where there is no college of veterinary medicine, state agricultural experiment stations engaged in animal health research.

In fiscal year 1974 Agriculture funded animal health research at \$28.3 million, \$1.4 million above the previous fiscal year. Of this sum, \$1.8 million was for the colleges of veterinary medicine, \$1.4 million was for the state agricultural experiment stations, and \$25 million was for Federal laboratory research. In addition, the colleges of veterinary medicine also received about \$15 million from other Federal agencies for human-health related research.

###