

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 8, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

On Saturday I signed into law H.R. 13871 -- the 1974 Amendments to the Federal Employees' Compensation Act. This Act provides workers' compensation benefits for Federal employees injured or killed in the performance of duty. Since the law was last amended over eight years ago, a number of social and economic developments have made it necessary to update and revise the requirements regarding compensation benefits for injured Federal workers. I feel this new legislation meets those changing conditions.

This bill will provide for improved protection against rising costs for Federal employees' and survivors who receive benefits. It also guarantees re-employment rights at the same or an equivalent position upon recovery within certain time limitations. Finally, the bill increases compensation benefits for survivors.

Therefore, I am pleased to sign this bill, which will assure equality protection for a very deserving group of workers' -- the Nations' Federal employees.

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