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THE WHITE HOUSE

washington October 2, 1974

The President Pro Tempore

of the Senate

Sir:

I ask the Congress to consider proposed supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year 1975 in the amount of \$7,005,000 in budget authority for the Department of Commerce and \$20,000,000 in transfer authority for the Small Business Administration.

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. These proposed appropriations are within the amounts anticipated in the 1975 budget.

Respectfully,

Gerald R. Ford

Enclosure

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

October 2, 1974

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 \$7,005,000 in budget authority for the Department of Commerce and \$20,000,000 in transfer authority for the Small Business Administration, as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

REGIONAL ACTION PLANNING COMMISSIONS

Regional Development Programs

For an additional amount for "Regional development programs," .\$7,005,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be available only upon enactment into law of authorizing legislation.

The proposed supplemental will provide funds for regional economic development efforts provided for in H.R. 14883, the enrolled two year extension of the Public Works and Economic Development Act. The funds for the Regional Action Planning Commissions will restore the commissions to their fiscal 1974 level.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Surety Bond Guarantees Fund

For additional capital for the "Surety Bond Guarantees Fund," authorized by the Small Business Investment Act, as amended, to remain available without fiscal year limitation: \$20,000,000, to be derived by transfer from the "Business Loan and Investment Fund."

This proposed transfer will provide \$20 million to permit continuation of the Surety Bond Program. Public Law 93-386, enacted on August 23, 1974, separated this program from the Lease Guarantees Program. Because of the separation of these programs, the funding flexibility has been reduced and the \$5 million currently allocated to the Surety Bond Guarantees Fund is not adequate to permit continuation of the program during the remainder of FY 1975. The proposed transfer from the Business Loan and Investment Fund will permit continuation of the Surety Bond Program with no increase in the Federal budget.

The proposed supplemental for the Department of Commerce was anticipated in the 1975 budget, and the proposal for the Small Business Administration is a simple transfer from one account to another. Therefore, there will be no increase in 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,

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Director