

OCTOBER 19, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H.R. 7135 - Federal military and civilian personnel claims which amends the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act of 1964 to raise to \$15,000 the ceiling on the amount of claims for personal property losses which can be settled administratively by an agency head.

Under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act, when Federal civilian employees or military personnel suffer losses of, or damage to, their personal property incident to their Government service, the head of their agency has administrative authority to settle claims up to maximum amounts specified in the Act. Claims above the maximum must be submitted to the Court of Claims or relief may be sought through private legislation. The bill will increase the present statutory ceilings to \$15,000 for all military and civilian agencies.

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