

APRIL 17, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary
-----NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H.J. Res. 335 - Amend Commodity Futures Trading Commission Act which authorizes the extension of the effective date of certain provisions of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Act for periods of not to exceed 90 days.

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission Act of 1974 -- which was approved by the President on October 23, 1974 -- makes extensive changes in the Commodity Exchange Act, brings under Federal regulation all agricultural and other commodities, goods, and services traded on boards of trade, and otherwise strengthens the regulation of the Nation's \$500 billion commodity futures trading industry. The changes made by the 1974 Act include the establishment of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, consisting of a Chairman and four other Commissioners.

Under its enabling act, if the Commodity Futures Trading Commission does not take specified actions by April 21, 1975 certain activities relating to the operation of the nation's commodities markets and trading cannot continue to be carried on. The Commission cannot possibly carry out all of these required actions by that date since it was only formally established on April 15, 1975 when four Commissioners were sworn in.

H.J. Res. 335 will extend, until a date prescribed by the Commission but not to exceed 90 days, the dates by which it must carry out the required actions. The commodities activities involved relate to provisional designation of certain trading markets, delaying Commission approval of the bylaws of contract markets, provisional registration of certain authorized traders, trading by brokers for their own accounts, definition of hedging transactions, and settlement of customers' claims.

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