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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GSA Extends, Amends Regulation  
For Federal ADP Procurement

The regulation requiring federal agencies to certify privacy safeguards and budgetary approval when requesting procurement of ADP, teleprocessing, and/or data communications systems meeting certain criteria has been extended and modified.

The U. S. General Services Administration said today the extension will be to the end of September when all provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 will be in effect. The regulation has been modified to clarify the responsibility of all federal agencies.

This is an interim step, said GSA Administrator Arthur F. Sampson, pending issuance of additional guidelines and regulations by the Office of Management and Budget which has statutory responsibilities for these areas under the Privacy Act. The initial GSA regulation was issued Oct. 1, 1974 and was effective through March 31.

In the new modified regulation, GSA emphasizes the necessity for compliance with the part of the Privacy Act which forbids certain uses of social security numbers.

Also being emphasized is the requirement for agencies to certify that systems or services being acquired for operation on or after Sept. 27 (the effective date for all the Act's provisions) are in compliance with the Act.

"These procedures," Sampson said, "reiterate GSA's continuing commitment to assure the security and privacy of personal data."

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