

FOR RELEASE UPON DELIVERY

JULY 9, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

TEXT OF REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO BE DELIVERED UPON THE SIGNING
OF THE TOURISM BILL

I am pleased today to sign into law S. 2003, which authorizes the Department of Commerce to carry out a variety of international and domestic tourism programs. This Act provides an acceptable compromise correcting the major problem contained in H.R. 5357 which I vetoed in May.

I commend the Members of Congress of both parties for enacting this legislation. This is a good example of the way in which the Congress and the executive branch can -- and should -- work together to assist an industry which is important to America.

As we celebrate our Bicentennial year, I believe this is an ideal time to encourage foreign and American tourists to visit the wonders of our nation. The programs authorized by this legislation will enable a greater number of people to enjoy the unique attractions of America than might have been possible otherwise.

I had vetoed the earlier tourism bill because some of its provisions infringed on the responsibilities and prerogatives of the states and the private sector.

The Congress has corrected this defect. The legislation I am about to sign represents a responsible and effective approach for Federal government encouragement of tourism in America.

I again thank the Congress for its constructive compromise and hope that the spirit of cooperation will continue in other badly-needed measures.

In closing, I urge all Americans and our neighbors throughout the world to join our Bicentennial celebration and take this special opportunity to explore our fascinating and beautiful country.

#

#

#