

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 19, 1976

Office of the Vice President

Press Release

Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller announced today that President Ford had directed the Domestic Council Committee on the Right of Privacy to undertake a comprehensive study of the emerging issues of information policy.

In announcing the study, the Vice President, who serves as Chairman of the Committee, stated, "The Committee will examine a number of critical issues facing this country, including the political, social, economic and international consequences of our economy's growing information sector. Specific issues, such as the impact of computer and related technologies, the relationship between privacy and freedom of information, and access to information and information delivery systems will also be considered."

In a memorandum to the Vice President, the President noted that there is a need to better coordinate and direct the way in which government policy is made in the area of information policy.

The President specifically directed the Domestic Council Committee on the Right of Privacy to review and clearly define the information policy issues which confront Federal policymakers, to ascertain the status of information policy studies now going forward within a number of agencies of the Executive Branch, and to report to him by September 1, 1976, with recommendations on how the Federal government should organize itself to deal with matters of information policy.

The Committee was directed to work closely with the various departments and agencies having specific responsibilities for formulating information policy, such as the Departments of Justice, Commerce, and Health, Education and Welfare, and the Office of Telecommunications Policy in the Executive Office of the President.

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