

JUNE 10, 1976

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

The President today announced that he has issued an Executive Order to improve the process of Presidential review of certification and permit decisions of the Civil Aeronautics Board involving international and overseas air transportation. The Order establishes, for the first time, guidelines to better assure fairness in the review process and to avoid suspicions of impropriety.

In taking this action, the President is ordering that staff members in the Executive Office of the President not discuss pending cases with interested private parties. (A controlled exception is possible in unusual circumstances.) The Order directs Executive Branch departments and agencies to present their views on regulatory issues, whenever possible, to the CAB, on the record, in the regular course of its proceedings.

A procedure is established for the release of CAB decisions as soon as they are screened for foreign policy or national defense matters that must remain confidential. This procedure accords with a recent court decision involving the release of CAB decisions under the Freedom of Information Act.

Executive Branch departments and agencies are directed to establish public dockets and other procedures to govern communications from private parties on CAB decisions. In certain cases, the Executive Order contemplates that the President may indicate that he would have no objection to judicial review of CAB decisions and proceedings.

The provisions of the Executive Order being issued today will become effective on the thirtieth day after publication in the Federal Register. Thus, the effective date is contemplated to be on or about July 11, 1976.

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