

JUNE 23, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. R. 11559 - Appropriation authorization for the saline water conversion program for fiscal year 1977. This bill authorizes appropriations in the amount of \$7,540,000 to be used by the Office of Water Research and Technology (OWRT) in the Department of the Interior for activities under the Saline Water Conversion Act of 1971 during fiscal year 1977.

Appropriations to carry out the on-going desalting program conducted by the Department of the Interior are authorized annually under the Saline Water Conversion Act of 1971. Under this bill, this authorization is the total of a number of specific amounts authorized for prescribed purposes including research, testing, development, and the operation of government-owned test facilities including those at Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina and Roswell, New Mexico.

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