

JUNE 30, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 3147 -- Appropriations authorizations, Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act. This bill authorizes appropriations totalling \$10.9 million to carry out the provisions of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 for fiscal year 1977.

The Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (1) establishes a regulatory scheme to control the dumping of wastes and dredged materials into coastal waters of the United States, (2) requires the maintenance of a research program to develop information on the effects of disposed materials upon the ocean environment, and (3) authorizes the protective designation of marine sanctuaries. Appropriations for these activities are currently authorized through the 1976 transitional quarter.

S. 3147 will authorize appropriations in fiscal year 1977 of:

- \$4.8 million for administration of the ocean dumping permit program.
- \$5.6 million for research on the effects of ocean dumping.
- \$500,000 for the ocean sanctuaries program.

The bill will require the Secretaries of the Army and Transportation, in addition to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to submit annual reports on their activities under the Act.

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