

JULY 7, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. R. 13380--Appropriation authorization for fisheries development program. This bill extends the appropriation authorization of the Central, Western, and South Pacific Fisheries Development Act through fiscal year 1979.

The Central, Western, and South Pacific Fisheries Development Act of 1972 authorized the Secretary of Commerce to carry out a three-year program for the development of the tuna and other fisheries resources of the Central, Western and South Pacific Ocean. A Pacific Islands Development Commission (PIDC) Tuna Program was initiated in fiscal year 1975 under the authority of this Act.

The bill will

- extend the authorization for appropriations of \$3,000,000 for the period from July 1, 1976, through September 30, 1979;
- make the program indefinite in length by eliminating the three-year limitation in current law; and
- require the Secretary to submit annual reports on the program by January 30 of each year to the President and the Congress.

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