

JULY 14, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 3168 -- Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1977. This bill authorizes fiscal year 1977 appropriations for the State Department, United States Information Agency, and Board for International Broadcasting and makes a number of changes in substantive law, including amendments to the retirement provisions of the Foreign Service Act.

The bill authorizes fiscal year 1977 appropriations totalling \$1,054,992,453 for the State Department.

S. 3168 authorizes a total of \$262,908,000 for the USIA for fiscal year 1977. The bill also authorizes the distribution of seven films and one exhibit produced by USIA within the United States in conjunction with the celebration of the bicentennial.

The bill authorizes \$58,385,000 for the Board for International Broadcasting for fiscal year 1977. The bill also authorizes the Board to procure and hold title to radio broadcasting equipment.

The retirement provisions will:

The bill authorizes \$58,385,000 for the Board for fiscal year 1977. The bill also authorizes the Board to procure and hold title to radio broadcasting equipment. The retirement provisions will:

- Provides for the effective date and amount of cost-of-living adjustments under the FSR system to be changed to coincide with such adjustments under the Civil Service retirement system;
- authorize automatic future changes in the Foreign Service retirement system to maintain appropriate conformity with the CSR system without the need for further legislation;
- provide that costs of the FSR system not covered by agency/employee contributions each fiscal year be met from annual appropriations;
- authorize immediate coverage under the FSR system for State and USIA Foreign Service Staff (FSS) employees.

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