

July 27, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 3184 - Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1976.

This bill extends for three fiscal years, and expands, the categorical Federal alcoholism programs of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW), including authorization of new alcoholism research programs.

S. 3184 will extend through fiscal year 1979, with amendments, HEW's legislative authorities for categorical programs of assistance to States and communities under the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970. The authorities for these programs expired on June 30, 1976.

With respect to State formula grants, it will:

- require HEW, within 6 months after enactment, to establish a method to determine the nature and extent of a State's need for alcoholism funds;
- impose new requirements for State plans which must be met prior to receiving formula grant money, e.g., preparation of a complete inventory of all public and private resources available for the treatment of alcoholism in the State, and a description of how States will assure that hospitals and other institutions receiving Federal funds from any source do not deny care to alcoholics;
- require States to add at least one representative of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council established under the recently-enacted National Health Planning and Resources Development Act (P. L. 93-641) to State alcoholism advisory councils.

Among other things, it would:

- provide that special emphasis be given to projects designed to serve racial and ethnic minorities, teenagers, and female alcoholics,
- require that special assistance be given to persons not fluent in the English language,
- authorize education and training to enable treatment personnel to meet public or private accreditation and licensure requirements, and
- authorize projects designed to provide for the coordination of all alcoholism diagnosis, treatment, prevention and research services in health planning areas.

Alcoholism research. S. 3184 will add a new title to the alcoholism act authorizing new specific research authorities to expand the research program of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). The new title will also authorize the establishment of up to six National Alcohol Research Centers in various parts of the country.

S. 3184 will authorize \$181 million for fiscal year 1977.