

SEPTEMBER 11, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. R. 11481 -- Maritime Appropriation Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 1977. This bill will authorize appropriations totalling \$448,041,000 for 1977 for the following maritime programs within the Department of Commerce:

- operating differential subsidies to American shipowners operating in foreign trades -- \$403,721,000;
- research and development programs to advance ship development and construction, ship operations systems and intermodal transportation systems -- \$22,500,000;
- maintenance expenses for the National Defense Reserve Fleet -- \$4,560,000;
- operating expenses for the Merchant Marine Academy -- \$13,260,000; and
- financial assistance to State maritime academies -- \$4,000,000.

The bill will also authorize such sums as are necessary to cover increases in personnel salaries and benefits and in public utilities, food services and other costs of the Merchant Marine Academy.

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The President has signed S. 3779 -- For the relief of Mrs. David C. Davis. This bill authorizes the burial of Mrs. David C. Davis next to her husband in Post Cemetery Number 2, Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

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