

September 29, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary
-----NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 2184 - Olympic Winter Games Authorization Act of 1976. This bill authorizes Federal financial assistance for planning, design and construction or improvement of facilities for the 1980 Olympic winter games at Lake Placid, New York.

The bill will authorize appropriations of \$49,040,000 to the Secretary of Commerce to provide financial assistance to the Lake Placid 1980 Olympic Games, Incorporated (a not-for-profit corporation), or to State, local or other governmental agencies to assist in the planning, design, and construction or improvement of winter games facilities. The bill provides that these funds "shall be provided in such sums, at such times, and under such conditions as the Secretary considers necessary and appropriate." The bill will also authorize appropriations of \$250,000 for administrative costs.

In addition, the bill will permit the Secretary to provide financial assistance for projects related to the Olympic winter games under Title I of the PWEDA, without being subject to the non-Federal matching requirement or limitation on the amount available to any one State in that Title. Revenues generated by the games in excess of actual costs are to revert to the Treasury.

"Winter games facilities" is defined in the bill to include a field house, ski jumps, a luge run, skating ovals or arenas, athletes' housing, a winter sports arena, administrative offices, parking facilities, facilities for increased electrical power, sanitary and water facilities, dressing rooms, equipment, storage facilities, and a scoreboard and other miscellaneous facilities.

The bill will also require the Secretary to assure that the Federal financial assistance will be granted in a manner which will provide maximum continued public use of the facilities after the 1980 Olympic winter games, as well as preserve and enhance the outdoor recreational and wilderness values of Adirondack Park and the Lake Placid area. The Secretary will also be directed to submit annual interim reports to the President and Congress on the progress made toward preparing for the Games and a final report containing a summary of all actions taken under this bill.

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