

OCTOBER 12, 1976

## Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 2942 -- Relief of Kenrick Withington Brookes. This bill authorizes the issuance of an immigrant visa to an alien child so that he can be adopted by a United States citizen. S. 2942 will waive the immigration law's age limitation in behalf of Kenrick and, thus, enable Mr. Camerud to obtain an immediate relative visa for him. The bill will also declare that Kenrick's natural parents, brothers, and sisters are ineligible for preferential treatment under immigration law by virtue of their relationship to him.

The President has signed H.R. 12566 -- National Science Foundation Authorization Act, 1977, which authorizes appropriations of \$816.7 million in 1977 for the National Science Foundation (NSF); also, H.R. 12566 contains a number of program, policy and administrative provisions. The most significant of these:

- establishes an experimental \$1.2 million "Science for Citizens" program supporting pilot projects to (1) improve public understanding of science and technology and their impact on public policy issues; (2) facilitate participation of scientists and engineers in public debate of issues; and (3) assist "nationally recognized professional societies and groups serving important public purposes" in conducting forums and conferences on public policy issues.
- authorizes a total of \$1 million in study grants to be awarded on a competitive basis to educational institutions for the purpose of drawing up plans for Minority Centers for Graduate Education in Science and Engineering.
- establishes an office of Small Business Research and Development to assist businesses in obtaining information about the Foundation's programs, to insure that the 10 percent set-aside for small businesses in the Foundation's Research Applied to National Needs program is effectively used, and to recommend changes in Foundation policies and procedures that would "better enable the Foundation to draw on the resources of the small business research and development community."
- directs NSF to plan a program for "Continuing Education in Science and Engineering" to enable experienced scientists to further their education, or transfer among fields of science.
- instructs NSF to initiate an intensive search" for qualified women, members of minority groups, and handicapped individuals to fill executive level positions.

The President has signed S. 2991 -- Hazardous Materials Transportation Act Amendments of 1976. This bill authorizes appropriations of \$11.75 million through fiscal year 1978 for the Department of Transportation to carry out its activities under the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act; and makes a clarifying amendment to that Act. S. 2991 will authorize appropriations of \$1.75 million for the transition quarter and \$5 million for each of fiscal years 1977 and 1978 for the Department of Transportation (DOT) to carry out its responsibilities under the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act (Public Law 93-633).

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