

OCTOBER 14, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

---

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 3383--National Weather Modification Policy Act of 1976 which authorizes and directs the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a study on weather modification and recommended a national weather modification policy and a national weather modification R&D program.

S. 3383 will direct the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a study which would include:

- a review and analysis of research efforts and needs in weather modification technology;
- an assessment of the potential economic importance and legal, social, and ecological implications of expanded weather modification activities;
- the formulation of options for a model regulatory code for domestic weather modification activities;
- recommendations for legislation at all levels of government and an assessment of the adequacy of funding from all sources for weather modification activities;
- a review of the international importance and implications of weather modification activities by the United States, including the feasibility of an international agreement on peaceful uses of weather modification; and
- an assessment of the roles of the various Federal departments and agencies involved in weather modification.

Within 1 year of enactment the Secretary will be required to submit a report to the President and Congress on the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the above study. The report will include a recommended national policy on weather modification and a national weather modification research and development program. The Secretary will also recommend (1) Federal funding levels for the R&D program, and (2) any changes in the organization of Federal agencies required to implement the proposed new weather policy and R&D program.