

OCTOBER 18, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 2112 -- National Trails System study areas, amending the National Trails System Act to designate eight additional study trails.

The National Trails System Act of 1968 provides for expanded outdoor recreation opportunities by encouraging the establishment of trails in urban areas, and by designating certain long distance paths as national scenic trails.

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The President has signed H.R. 3605 -- Reduce Beer Tax for Small Brewers.

H.R. 3605 reduces the excise tax on beer from \$9 to \$7 a barrel for the first 60,000 barrels removed each calendar year for consumption or sale by a brewer who produces no more than 2,000,000 barrels per year. Related corporations will be treated as one for purposes of the tax reduction. The \$2 per barrel reduction would amount to a maximum revenue loss of \$120,000 per qualifying brewer.

The purpose of the bill is to enable small regional brewers to "compete more effectively" with the large national brewers. Since 1933, the number of breweries operating in the United States has declined from more than 700 to about 100 at present. This has occurred despite the increase in U.S. annual production from 38 million barrels in 1934 to 158 million barrels in 1975.

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The President has signed S. 3667 -- Relief of Song Chan Ki. This bill facilitates issuance of an immigrant visa to an alien orphan to be adopted by U.S. citizens. The beneficiary is an eleven-year-old Korean orphan boy who resides in an orphanage in Korea.

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