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76-0489



COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

September 26, 1975

R-115398



LM096813

Speaker of the House
President of the Senate

We were furnished copies of deferrals which the President submitted to the Congress on September 10 in his third special messages for fiscal year 1976 pursuant to the Impoundment Control Act of 1974. The special message transmits three new deferrals and two revised deferrals. The President estimates that the impoundments will reduce fiscal year 1976 outlays by \$21.6 million. Enclosure I summarizes, by agency, the total budget authority and FY 1976 outlay reductions involved in the message.

The Impoundment Control Act requires us to review each message and report promptly to the House and Senate as to the facts surrounding each action, including the probable effect thereof and, in the case of deferrals, to render a judgment as to whether the action is in accordance with existing legal authority. We are also required to notify the Congress if supplementary information revising earlier messages necessitates changes in the original reports submitted by us. Enclosure II contains our comments on each impoundment transmitted by the President's September 10 special message.

Sincerely yours,

Comptroller General
of the United States

Enclosures

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OSP-76-6

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ENCLOSURE I

BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OUTLAY REDUCTIONS CONTAINED IN NEW
 DEFERRALS TRANSMITTED WITH THE PRESIDENT'S
 THIRD FY 76 SPECIAL MESSAGE ON
 SEPTEMBER 10, 1975

<u>DEFERRALS</u>	<u>BUDGET AUTHORITY</u>	<u>OUTLAY REDUC- TIONS FY 76</u>
	(dollars in thousands)	
1 Department of Health, Education, and Welfare	\$10,968	\$ 2,400
2 Department of the Treasury	<u>58,566</u>	<u>19,196</u>
	<u>\$69,534</u>	<u>\$21,596</u>

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

D76-25a Office of the Secretary
State and Local Government
Fiscal Assistance Trust Fund

3

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

D76-28a Agriculture Stabilization and
Conservation Service
Agricultural Conservation Program - 1976
126/83315

Our July 17 report to the Congress (B-115398) commented on the original deferral, D76-25. Our August 12 report to the Congress commented on the original deferral, D76-28. The President's supplementary information does not require us to modify our earlier comments.

COMMENTS ON THE THIRD FY 1976 SPECIAL MESSAGE
TRANSMITTED BY THE PRESIDENT ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1975,
PURSUANT TO THE IMPOUNDMENT CONTROL ACT OF 1974

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

D76-51 Office of Education
Elementary and Secondary
Education (Title I)
7560279

D76-52 Office of Education
Elementary and Secondary
Education (Title IV)
7560279

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

D76-53 Office of the Secretary (miscellaneous)
District of Columbia Government Fund
Water Fund 20X0138, Highway Fund 20X0139,
General Fund 20X0140, Sanitary Sewage
20X0141, Metropolitan Area Sanitary
Sewage Works Fund 20

The information provided in the messages is essentially correct and the actions taken are reasonably clear. In the case of D76-51, the budget authority was being deferred until the 1976 Education Appropriation Bill was enacted. On September 10, the Bill was enacted by Congress overriding the President's veto. OMB informs us that they are in the process of apportioning the funds.

D76-51 and D76-52 are authorized by § 1013 of the Impoundment Control Act. D76-53 is in accordance with the authority conferred by the Antideficiency Act (31 U.S.C. 665). In the three deferrals cited above, the authority exists until either House of the Congress passes a resolution disapproving the action or until the end of the current fiscal year.