

**DOCUMENT RESUME**

00296 - [A1051902]

[Impoundments]. OGC-77-15; B-115398. March 31, 1977. 2 pp.

Report to the Congress; by Paul G. Dembling, General Counsel.

Contact: Office of the General Counsel.

Budget Function: Miscellaneous: Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (1005).

Organization Concerned: Department of the Navy; Department of Defense; Department of the Air Force; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Energy Research and Development Administration; Coast Guard; United States Travel Service.

Congressional Relevance: Congress.

Authority: Impoundment Control Act of 1974, sec. 1012(b), 1013(b). E.R. 3839 (95th Cong.).

Budget authority required for obligations under the Impoundment Control Act of 1974 was released.

Findings/Conclusions: In his seventh special message for fiscal year 1977; the President proposed nine rescissions. Congress did not act favorably on: \$525,000 for the U.S. Travel Service, \$1.5 million for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and \$6,803,000 for the U.S. Coast Guard. The period during which the funds were allowed to be withheld pending Congressional action on rescission requests ended on March 14, 1977. The budget authority has been apportioned and made available for use. Congress acted favorably on the following: \$41.5 million in funds appropriated to the President; in the Department of Defense -- \$143,600,000 for retired pay, \$452,600,000 for Navy shipbuilding and conversion, and \$14,350,000 for Air Force procurement; and \$12 million for the State Department. A proposed Small Business Administration rescission was withdrawn. Congress also disapproved of three deferrals of budget authority for the Energy Research and Development Administration. (RRS)

00296



UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

March 31, 1977

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

B-115398

To the President of the Senate and the  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

This letter reports the release of budget authority required to be made available for obligation pursuant to sections 1012(b) and 1013(b) of the Impoundment Control Act of 1974.

The seventh special message for fiscal year 1977 submitted by the President on January 17, 1977 proposed nine rescissions. Of these nine, the Congress did not act favorably on the following three:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

- R77-6 U.S. Travel Service \$ 525,000  
Salaries and expenses
- R77-7 National Oceanic and Atmospheric \$1,500,000  
Administration  
Operations, research and  
facilities

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

- R77-12 U.S. Coast Guard \$6,803,000  
Retired Pay

The 45-day period of continuous session during which the funds were allowed to be withheld pending congressional action on the rescission requests ended on March 14, 1977. We have confirmed that OMB has apportioned the budget authority and that the departments have made it available for use.

The Congress, however, did act favorably on the following proposed rescissions that were submitted on January 17, 1977 (see rescission bill H.R. 3839 enacted March 25, 1977):

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FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

R77-5 International Security Assistance \$ 41,500,000  
Foreign Military Credit Sales

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

R77-8 Office of the Secretary of Defense \$143,600,000  
Retired Pay, Defense

R77-9 Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy \$452,600,000

R77-10 Department of the Air Force \$ 14,350,000  
Other Procurement

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

R77-11 International Organization Affairs \$ 12,000,000  
Contributions for International  
Peacekeeping Activities

Proposed rescission R77-13, Small Business Administration, Business Loan and Investment Fund, was withdrawn by the President's eighth special message on March 9, 1977.

In addition to rejection of three rescission proposals, the Congress has disapproved three deferrals of budget authority that were included in the January 17, 1977, message:

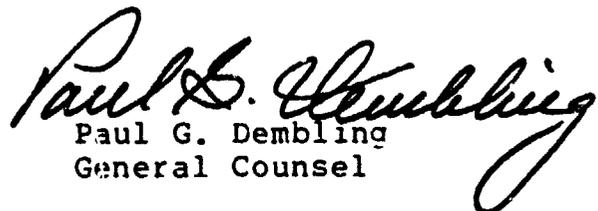
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

D77-50 Operating Expenses \$12,000,000 H.Res.305  
(magnetic fusion 3/3/77  
energy)

D77-51 Operating Expenses 5,400,000 H.Res.306  
(program support- 3/3/77  
community operations)

D77-52 Operating Expenses 8,200,000 H.Res.307  
(biomedical and  
environmental research) 3/3/77

We have confirmed that OMB has apportioned the budget authority and ERDA has made it available for use.

  
Paul G. Dembling  
General Counsel