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



OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

IN REPLY REFER TO: B-196797

[Status of Proposed Rescission in Budget Authority] April 7, 1980

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

The purpose of this letter is to report on the status of budget authority that was proposed for rescission, but for which Congress failed to pass a rescission bill as defined by section 1011 of the Impoundment Control Act.

In the President's fourth special message for fiscal year 1980, dated January 28, 1980, the President proposed the rescission of \$104.2 million in budget authority that had been made available to the Health Resources Administration, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, for Federal support of health professions training programs (rescission proposal R80-2). This proposal was revised in the President's fifth special message dated February 20, 1980, to decrease the amount proposed by \$6.4 million (rescission proposal R80-2A). In the fourth special message, the President also proposed the rescission of \$18 million in budget authority that had been made available to the Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, for exploration of the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (rescission proposal R80-3).

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Section 1012(b) of the Impoundment Control Act requires that funds proposed for rescission be made available for obligation unless the Congress completes action on a rescission bill within the first 45-day period of continuous session of the Congress following the date such proposal is received by the Congress. For rescission proposals R80-2 (and R80-2A) and R80-3, the 45-day period ended on March 18, 1980, without the Congress having passed such a bill.

We have confirmed that on March 18, 1980, the subject budget authorities were apportioned by the Office of Management and Budget to the proper agencies for allotment to the programs involved.



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Henry R. Socolar

- Milton J. Socolar
General Counsel