

## MESSAGE

FROM

## THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

VETOING

H.R. 9497

AN ACT TO AMEND THE COMPUTATION OF THE LEVEL OF PRICE SUPPORT FOR TOBACCO



OCTOBER 1, 1975.—Message and accompanying Act referred to the Committee on Agriculture and ordered to be printed

> U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON · 1975

57-011

## To the House of Representatives:

I return herewith, without my approval, H.R. 9497, an Act "To amend the computation of the level of price support for tobacco."

Although I am concerned about the hardships that many U.S. tobacco growers have encountered this year due to adverse weather conditions and lower-than-expected export markets, the long-range interests of the grower will be best served by a vigorous domestic tobacco industry which can compete successfully in international markets. H.R. 9497 would be an obstacle in achieving this goal. In the face of slackening world demand for U.S. tobacco, higher prices would make our product less competitive, thus endangering the \$1 billion net trade surplus we now enjoy in this commodity.

At a time when we are attempting to reduce inflationary pressures in the economy by holding down the size of Federal deficits, H.R. 9497 would increase budget outlays during this fiscal year and the transition period by an estimated \$157 million.

In summary, I believe this bill would adversely affect our tobacco exports, lower farm income in the long run, and increase Federal spending at a critical time in our economic recovery.

GERALD R. FORD.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 30, 1975.

(III)