



ANNOUNCEMENT

from the Copyright Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. 20559

COPYRIGHT LAW AMENDED REGARDING COMPUTER PROGRAMS



The following excerpt amending title 17, United States Code, is taken from Public Law 96-517, dated December 12, 1980 (94 STAT. 3028-29).

"Computer program."

SEC. 10. (a) Section 101 of title 17 of the United States Code is amended to add at the end thereof the following new language:

"A 'computer program' is a set of statements or instructions to be used directly or indirectly in a computer in order to bring about a certain result."

(b) Section 117 of title 17 of the United States Code is amended to read as follows:

17 USC 117.

"§ 117. Limitations on exclusive rights: Computer programs

17 USC 106.

"Notwithstanding the provisions of section 106, it is not an infringement for the owner of a copy of a computer program to make or authorize the making of another copy or adaptation of that computer program provided:

"(1) that such a new copy or adaptation is created as an essential step in the utilization of the computer program in conjunction with a machine and that it is used in no other manner, or

"(2) that such new copy or adaptation is for archival purposes only and that all archival copies are destroyed in the event that continued possession of the computer program should cease to be rightful.

"Any exact copies prepared in accordance with the provisions of this section may be leased, sold, or otherwise transferred, along with the copy from which such copies were prepared, only as part of the lease, sale, or other transfer of all rights in the program. Adaptations so prepared may be transferred only with the authorization of the copyright owner."