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REPORT ON POCKET VETO

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MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A MEMORANDUM PREPARED IN THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL REGARDING BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT LESS THAN 10 DAYS BEFORE THE ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS AND NOT SIGNED BY HIM

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DECEMBER 22, 1928.—Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed

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THE WHITE HOUSE, *December 22, 1928.*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I am transmitting herewith for the information of the Congress a memorandum prepared in the office of the Attorney General regarding bills presented to the President less than ten days before the adjournment of Congress and not signed by him.

CALVIN COOLIDGE.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
*Washington, October 10, 1928.*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In re bills presented to the President less than ten days before the adjournment of Congress and not signed by him. In the case of each such bill, what was done with the engrossed copy of the bill, and what communication or memorandum was made in connection with such disposition?

Such unsigned bills are found in four places: in the custody of the Secretary of the Senate; in the custody of the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress (where Presidential messages to the House of Representatives prior to the Civil War have been deposited); in the

greater than the sum thus sought to be released to him, I am not willing to agree to his release from the consequences of his failure to perform his contract.

I do not find unsigned bills in the archives of the State Department bearing any date between August, 1886, and December, 1892. Three bills of a later period were sent to that Department. With those three exceptions, all such unsigned bills after August, 1886, were retained by the President and are now at the Executive Offices.

The 49th Congress, second session, adjourned March 4, 1887. President Cleveland retained unsigned seven Senate and forty House bills. These bills have on them no markings except such as were made by the enrolling and comparing clerks of Congress, notations showing to what Department each bill was referred, the stamp showing when the bill was received at the Executive Mansion and in some instances an X in blue pencil. I shall give the number of the bill and the date on which it was received at the Executive Mansion.

H. R. 2208—Feb. 22, 1887  
 H. R. 7819—Feb. 22  
 H. R. 9119—Feb. 22  
 S. 1326—Feb. 23  
 S. 1930—Feb. 23  
 H. R. 306—Feb. 26  
 H. R. 6188—Feb. 26  
 H. R. 7504—Feb. 26  
 H. R. 9377—Feb. 26  
 H. R. 5541—Mar. 1  
 H. R. 7479—Mar. 1  
 H. Res. 125—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 731—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 942—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 2889—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 3930—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 3931—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 4585—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 4678—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 4745—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 7221—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 7643—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 8067—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 8384—Mar. 2

H. R. 8437—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 8828—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 9170—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 9213—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 9301—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 10419—Mar. 2  
 H. R. 10421—Mar. 2  
 S. 130—Mar. 3  
 S. 175—Mar. 3  
 S. 929—Mar. 3  
 S. 1033—Mar. 3  
 S. 2725—Mar. 3  
 H. R. 38—Mar. 3  
 H. Res. 82—Mar. 3  
 H. Res. 222—Mar. 3  
 H. Res. 243—Mar. 3  
 H. R. 679—Mar. 3  
 H. R. 1753—Mar. 3  
 H. R. 3642—Mar. 3  
 H. R. 9860—Mar. 3  
 H. R. 9921—Mar. 3  
 H. R. 10040—Mar. 3  
 H. R. 10514—Mar. 3

The 50th Congress, first session, adjourned October 20, 1888. (Cong. Rec., vol. 19, pt. 10, pp. 9614, 9616) President Cleveland retained unsigned 13 Senate and 10 House bills. They are now at the Executive Offices. The following bills are stamped as received at the Executive Mansion on the dates given below:

S. 664—Oct. 10, 1888  
 S. 869—Oct. 9  
 S. 889—Oct. 10  
 S. 1614—Oct. 10  
 S. 1926—Oct. 10  
 S. 2567—Oct. 10  
 S. 3030—Oct. 10  
 S. 3083—Oct. 10  
 S. 3234—Oct. 9  
 S. 3241—Oct. 10  
 S. 3390—Oct. 9  
 S. 3559—Oct. 17  
 S. 3573—Oct. 9

H. R. 7547—Oct. 17  
 H. R. 1239—Oct. 17  
 H. R. 3300—Oct. 10  
 H. R. 7964—Oct. 19  
 H. R. 8074—Oct. 17  
 H. R. 8674—Oct. 17  
 H. R. 8855—Oct. 17  
 H. R. 7447—Oct. 12  
 H. R. 10183—Oct. 17  
 H. R. 11107—Oct. 17

The 50th Congress, second session, adjourned March 4, 1889. President Cleveland retained at the White House 12 Senate and 19 House bills. Committee reports are usually attached to the bills.