
REPORT ON POCKET VETO

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

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

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.

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

H. R. 15573—received Feb. 28. On bill is written in ink:

Veto

H. R. 16361—received Feb. 28. On bill is written in ink:

Not sign

H. R. 16445—received Feb. 28. No marks by the President, but attached to the bill is a report of the Commissioner of Pensions that the beneficiary had died.

The 58th Congress, third session, adjourned March 4, 1905, the Senate legislative day of March 4 and the House legislative day of March 2. (Cong. Rec., vol. 39, pt. 4, pp. 4028, 4041) President Roosevelt retained unsigned S. 5108, which is stamped:

White House received Mar 3, 1905

and H. R. 11204, which has no date of receipt stamped on it. Both bills are now at the Executive Offices.

The 59th Congress, first session, adjourned June 30, 1906. (Cong. Rec., vol. 40, pt. 10, pp. 9802, 9817) President Roosevelt retained unsigned six Senate and three House bills. They are now at the Executive Offices.

S. 1812, S. 2188, S. 4774, H. R. 12080 and H. R. 15673 are undated.

S. 4197 is stamped:

The White House received Jun. 29, 1906

On the bill is penciled:

Pocket Veto.

S. 4965 is undated. Attached to the bill is a slip on which is written:

Pocket Veto.

S. 6355 was received June 29. Attached to it is a slip of paper on which is written:

Let it die.

H. R. 7226 was received June 28. Attached to it is a slip of paper on which is written:

Pocket Veto.

The 59th Congress, second session, adjourned March 4, 1907, the Senate and House legislative day of March 2. (Cong. Rec., vol. 41, pt. 5, pp. 4658, 4672) President Roosevelt retained unsigned two Senate and four House bills, which are now at the Executive Offices.

S. 4964 was received Mar. 2. On the bill itself, in ink, in the President's handwriting, is word "Veto."

S. 8540 was received Mar. 2. On the bill, in ink, in the President's handwriting, are the words "Pocket veto."

H. R. 3498 was received February 28, 1907.

H. R. 17415 is not stamped with date of receipt. On the bill itself, in ink, in the President's handwriting, are the words "Pocket veto."

H. R. 18854 was received February 22.

H. R. 19500 is undated.

The 60th Congress, second session, adjourned March 4, 1909, the Senate legislative day of March 3 and the House legislative day of February 23. (Cong. Rec., vol. 43, pt. 4, pp. 3825, 3837) President Roosevelt retained unsigned ten Senate and seven House bills. They

are now at the Executive Offices. Very few of them bear marks showing when they were received.

S. 2544—undated. On bill is written:

All wrong

R

S. 3164—undated. On bill is written:

Bad

R

S. 3526, S. 6852, S. 8588 and S. 8839 are undated and on each is written:

Bad

S. 4426 and S. 8429 are undated and on each bill is a large question mark.

S. 7859—undated. On bill is written:

Bad?

R

S. 9402 and H. R. 1072 are undated. There are no marks on them.

H. R. 4521 was stamped as received Mar. 2. On it some comment was written in ink and afterwards erased.

H. R. 6183—undated. On it is written:

All wrong

T. R.

H. R. 16696—undated. On it is written:

Know nothing about it.

H. R. 12499 was received Feb. 27, 1909. Attached to it is a slip of paper on which is written:

Pocket veto

W. L. Jr.

H. R. 13712 was received Feb. 22. Attached to it is a slip of paper on which is written:

Pocket veto

W. L. Jr.

H. R. 13928 was received March 2. Attached to it is a slip of paper on which is written in same handwriting as on slips of paper attached to H. R. 12499 and H. R. 13712:

Pocket veto.

The 61st Congress, second session, adjourned June 25, 1910. (Cong. Rec., vol. 45, pt. 8, pp. 9080, 9119) President Taft retained unsigned three House bills which are now at the Executive Offices. H. R. 3346, H. R. 18376 and H. R. 20644 are all stamped as received at the White House on June 24, 1910. To each of the last two bills a letter is attached and on each letter is written in pencil the word "Pocket."

The 61st Congress, third session, adjourned March 4, 1911, the Senate legislative day of March 4 and the House legislative day of March 2. (Cong. Rec., vol. 46, pt. 5, pp. 4323, 4339) President Taft retained unsigned two House bills, which are now at the Executive Offices.

H. R. 30273 was received March 3.