
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

At the end of the 54th Congress, second session, which adjourned March 4, 1897, three Senate and forty-two House bills were retained unsigned. They are now at the Executive Offices.

S. 824—stamped as received at the Executive Mansion Mar 3, 1897.

S. 3328—received Feb. 26, 1897. On an attached committee report is penciled the word "Pass." This is apparently in the handwriting of President Cleveland.

S. 2986—received Mar. 2. On an attached committee report are the penciled words:

This bill seems to be exactly what is not needed—Pass.

H. R. 1353, H. R. 2815, H. R. 4058, H. R. 4193, H. R. 4930, H. R. 6352, H. R. 9099, H. R. 9571, H. R. 9704, H. R. 10002, H. R. 10292 and H. R. 10331 have no date stamped on them.

H. R. 948—received Feb. 26. On an attached committee report is penciled the word "Pass."

H. R. 4424—received Feb. 25; H. R. 8706, H. R. 9961,—received Feb. 26; H. R. 5473, H. R. 9762—received Feb. 27. To each of these bills a letter is attached and on each letter there is penciled the word "Pass."

H. R. 3402, H. R. 3605, H. R. 5128, H. R. 5183, H. R. 6159, H. R. 6268, H. R. 6417, H. R. 6560, H. R. 6765, H. R. 6845, H. R. 6915, H. R. 7317, H. R. 7451, H. R. 8633, H. R. 10290 were each stamped as received Mar. 1. To each is attached a committee report and on each committee report is penciled the word "Pass."

H. Res. 261—received Mar. 2. On attached note is penciled "Pass."

H. R. 459, H. R. 2974, H. R. 6634, H. R. 9607 and H. R. 10178 were stamped March 3.

H. R. 2962—received Mar. 1. On attached committee report is penciled:

Death not connected with service
Pass

H. R. 4310—received Mar. 2. On attached report was penciled "Pass." On this bill had been written in ink:

Approved March 3, 1897

GROVER CLEVELAND

Then the approval and signature had been erased.

H. R. 7205—received Mar. 2. On attached committee report is penciled:

Pass—Beneficiary is already in receipt of pension of \$12 per month the same rate provided in this bill.

At the close of the 55th Congress, second session, which adjourned July 8, 1898 (Cong. Rec., vol. 31, pt. 7, pp. 6794, 6807), President McKinley retained unsigned S. 4847, "to provide an American register for the steamer *Titania*," which was stamped as received at the Executive Mansion July 7.

At the close of the 55th Congress, third session, which adjourned March 4, 1899, the President retained unsigned H. R. 8897, which was stamped as received Feb. 24, 1899, and H. R. 8578 and H. R. 9344, both of which are unstamped. To H. R. 8578 there is attached a letter on which there is the unsigned penciled word "pocket." To