

**The original documents are located in Box 121, folder “Vetoes” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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October 30, 1974

## SUBJECT:

LEGISLATION SIGNED AND  
VETOED BY PRESIDENT FORD

Since taking office on August 9, President Ford has signed into law 143 bills.

In addition, President Ford has vetoed 13 separate pieces of legislation. These include:

8/12/74	H.R.5094	Upgrading of Deputy U.S. Marshals
8/14/74	H.R.11873	Animal Health Reserach
9/30/74	H.R.10626	Directed Secretary of Interior to convey phosphate interests of U.S. in Polk Co. (40 acres) to John and Martha Carter
10/12/74	H.R.15301	Railroad Retirement System
10/12/74	H.R.15323	Amends the Atomic Energy Act
10/14/74	H.J.Res.1131	Continuing Resolution
10/17/74	H.J.Res.1163	Continuing Resolution (second veto)
10/17/74	H.R.12471	Amends public access to documents provisions of Adm. Procedures Act (Freedom of Information)
10/22/74	H.R.11541	Amends the National Wildlife Refuge System Adm. Act of 1966
10/29/74	H.R.13342	Farm Labor Contractor Registration Act Amendments of 1974
10/29/74	H.R.14225	Rehabilitation Act and Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments of 1974
10/29/74	H.R.7768	Relief of Mr. Nolan Sharp
10/29/74	H.R.6624	Relief of Alvin V. Burt, Jr., Eileen Wallace Kennedy Pope, and David Douglas Kennedy

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 28, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: KEN COLE  
SUBJECT: YOUR PREVIOUS VETOES

Attached at Tab A are one pagers on your reasons for vetoing bills since assuming the Presidency.

H.R. 5094	Reclassification of positions of deputy U.S. marshals	Vetoed: 8/12/74
H.R. 11873	Animal health research	Vetoed: 8/14/74
H.R. 10626	Sell reserved phosphate interests of U.S.	Vetoed: 9/30/74
H.R. 15323	Public remuneration in the event of nuclear incident	Vetoed: 10/12/74
H.R. 15301	Railroad retirement	Vetoed: 10/12/74
H.J. Res. 1131	Continuing Resolution	Vetoed: 10/14/74
H.J. Res. 1163	Continuing Resolution	Vetoed: 10/17/74
H.R. 12471	Freedom of Information Act	Vetoed: 10/17/74
H.R. 11541	Amend National Wildlife Refuge system Administration Act of 1966	Vetoed: 10/22/74

POCKET VETO (AREEDA GUIDANCE)

Q: The President refused to sign several bills in the last few days. Did he pocket veto these bills?

A: The President has effectively vetoed these bills. He did not sign them. That is a veto. He sent them back to Congress, however, in case he wasn't entitled to pocket veto them.

Q: What if Congress overrides them?

A: That would create legal uncertainties. However, if Congress wants to make sure the bill is law, they should pass it again.

Q: What will the President do if Congress overrides?

A: We will see what they do, then consult the Attorney General before making a decision.

Q: Is Kennedy right in his suit?

A: Kennedy's suit and the court's decision involved a different type of Congressional recess.

Q: Will the President appeal the decision in the Kennedy case?

A: You will have to ask the Solicitor General.

November 7, 1974

Q: Is the President paying for the transportation of guests invited to the **30-30 lunch**?

A: No.

Q: Is the President paying for the lunch?

A: Yes. Nancy Howe says he intends to pay for the lunch.

Q: Is the President paying McGee's expenses from California, since he couldn't afford to pay his own?

A: Definitely not. We understand McGee is planning to pay his own way, and think he is coming by bus.

(FYI ONLY: McGee has written the President a letter apologizing for the "freight train" interview, and says he was only kidding.)

Q: What is on the menu?

A: It is too early to say, unless Nancy Howe or Nancy Lammerding will have the menu plans. Usher's Office will get the information a couple of days before the event.

December 3, 1974

SUBJECT:

FORD VETOES

If the Congress overrides the Veterans bill today, how many vetoes will President Ford have overridden?

GUIDANCE: From my figures, I find that President Ford has had two bills overridden--the Railroad Retirement System (H.R.15301), overridden on October 16; and the Freedom of Information Amendments (H.R.12471), overridden on November 21, 1974.

You have failed to include the Voc-Rehab legislation which was vetoed by the President on October 29. Wasn't this bill overridden?

GUIDANCE: It is our interpretation that that bill was pocket vetoed, and therefore not subject to being overridden. As you recall, the Congress passed an identical bill and resubmitted it to the White House.

(Attached is a list of the vetoes by President Ford)

JGC

FORD VETOES

1974  
8/12

8/12	Upgrading of Deputy U.S. Marshals --Upgrades nonsupervisory deputy U.S. Marshal positions by one, two and three grades.	H.R.5094
8/14	Animal Health Research --Authorizes and directs Secretary of Agriculture to provide up to \$47 million annually in categorical grants to State educational institutions for animal health research programs & facilities.	H.R.11873
9/30	Directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey all --phosphate interests of the U.S. in approximately 40 acres in Polk Co., Florida to John & Martha Carter.	H.R.10626
10/12	Railroad Retirement System --Finance a long-standing deficit in the retirement system <u>(OVERRIDDEN 10/16/74)</u>	H.R.15301
10/12	Amend the Atomic Energy Act --Revise the method of providing public remuneration in the event of a nuclear incident, and other purposes.	H.R.15323
10/14	Continuing Resolution --Amends the Continuing Resolution to cut off military aid to Turkey.	H.J.Res.1131
10/17	Continuing Resolution (second veto)	H.J.Res.1163
10/17	Amend public access to documents provisions of the --Administrative Procedures Act (Freedom of Info.) <u>(OVERRIDDEN 11/21/74)</u>	H.R.12471
10/22	Amends the National Wildlife Refuge System Adm. --Act of 1966	H.R.11541
10/29	Farm Labor Contractor Registration Act Amendments	H.R.11342
10/29	Rehabilitation Act and Randolph-Sheppard Act Amend- --ments of 1974 & W.H. Conference on Handicapped Individuals Act <u>(OVERRIDDEN 11/21/74)</u> *	H.R.14225
10/29	Relief of Mr. Nolan Sharp	H.R.7768
10/29	Relief of Alvin V. Burt, Jr., Eileen Wallace --Kennedy Pope, and David Douglas Kennedy	H.R.6624
11/23	Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance --Act of 1974	H.R.12628
11/26	Duty Suspension on Certain Forms of Zinc	H.R.6191

\*The Administration feels that this bill was pocket vetoed and therefore not subject to being overridden. An identical Voc-Rehab bill was passed and sent to the White House.

December 3, 1974

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FORD VETOES

If the Congress overrides the Veterans bill today, how many vetoes will President Ford have overridden?

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(Attached is a list of the vetoes by President Ford)

JGC

May 14, 1975

SUBJECT:

VETOES

In vetoing the farm bill and having it sustained yesterday, how many bills has the President vetoed?

GUIDANCE: With the veto of the farm bill, this brings to 29, the total vetoed by President Ford since he took office on August 9.

(A list of the vetoed bills is attached.)

How many of these bills have been overridden?

GUIDANCE: Three of the President's vetoes have been overridden. These include:

1. The Railroad Retirement System, H.R. 15301-- vetoed on October 12, 1974; overridden on October 16, 1974. This bill calls for \$285 million per year for 25 years to help finance the railroad retirement system.
2. The Amendments to the Freedom of Information Act, H.R. 12471--vetoed October 17, 1974; overridden on November 21, 1974. We felt these amendments would have greatly encumbered administrative procedures and suggested alternative amendments.
3. The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, H.R. 12628--vetoed on November 26, 1974; overridden on December 3, 1974. This bill costs \$502 million and proposed a larger increase than that proposed by the President.

FORD VETOES

- |     |              |  |                |
|-----|--------------|--|----------------|
| 1.  | 1974<br>8/12 | Upgrading of Deputy U.S. Marshals<br>--Upgrades nonsupervisory deputy U.S. Marshal positions by one, two and three grades.   | H.R. 5094      |
| 2.  | 8/14         | Animal Health Research<br>--Authorizes and directs Secretary of Agriculture to provide up to \$47 million annually in categorical grants to State educational institutions for animal health research programs & facilities. | H.R. 11873     |
| 3.  | 9/30         | Directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey all --phosphate interests of the U.S. in approximately 40 acres in Polk Co., Florida to John & Martha Carter.  | H.R. 10626     |
| 4.  | 10/12        | Railroad Retirement System<br>--Finance a long-standing deficit in the retirement system <u>(OVERRIDDEN 10/16/74)</u>  | H.R. 15301     |
| 5.  | 10/12        | Amend the Atomic Energy Act<br>--Revise the method of providing public remuneration in the event of a nuclear incident, and other purposes.  | H.R. 15323     |
| 6.  | 10/14        | Continuing Resolution<br>--Amends the Continuing Resolution to cut off military aid to Turkey.   | H.J. Res. 113  |
| 7.  | 10/17        | Continuing Resolution (second veto)  | H.J. Res. 1163 |
| 8.  | 10/17        | Amend public access to documents provisions of the --Administrative Procedures Act (Freedom of Info.) <u>(OVERRIDDEN 11/21/74)</u>   | H.R. 12471     |
| 9.  | 10/22        | Amends the National Wildlife Refuge System Adm. --Act of 1966  | H.R. 11541     |
| 10. | 10/29        | Farm Labor Contractor Registration Act Amendments  | H.R. 11342     |
| 11. | 10/29        | Rehabilitation Act and Randolph-Sheppard Act Amend-<br>--ments of 1974 & W.H. Conference on Handicapped<br>Individuals Act <u>(OVERRIDDEN 11/21/74)</u> *  | H.R. 14225     |
| 12. | 10/29        | Relief of Mr. Nolan Sharp  | H.R. 7768      |
| 13. | 10/29        | Relief of Alvin V. Burt, Jr., Eileen Wallace<br>--Kennedy Pope, and David Douglas Kennedy  | H.R. 6624      |
| 14. | 11/23        | Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance<br>--Act of 1974   | H.R. 12628     |
| 15. | 11/26        | Duty Suspension on Certain Forms of Zinc   | H.R. 6191      |

\*The Administration feels that this bill was pocket vetoed and therefore not subject to being overridden. An identical Voc-Rehab bill was passed and sent to the White House.

FORD VETOES - 2

1974

- |     |             |  |           |
|-----|-------------|--|-----------|
| 16. | 12/17       | Willow Creek, Oregon, Water Resources Project      | S.3537    |
| 17. | 12/21       | Health Revenue Sharing & Health Services Act of 74 | H.R.14214 |
| 18. | 12/21       | Financing of TVA Pollution Control Expenses        | H.R.11929 |
| 19. | 12/30       | Energy Transportation Security Act of 74           | H.R.8193  |
| 20. | 12/30       | Surface Mining Control & Reclamation Act of 74     | S.425     |
| 21. | 12/31       | Travel Expenses Amendments Act of 1974             | S.3341    |
| 22. | <u>1975</u> |  |           |
| 22. | 1/3         | Milk Price Support Sponsor                         | S.4206    |
| 23. | 1/3         | Import Restrictions on Filberts                    | H.R.2933  |
| 24. | 1/3         | Agriculture Conservation Programs                  | S.3943    |
| 25. | 1/3         | Nurse Training Act of 1974                         | H.R.17085 |
| 26. | 1/4         | Maritime Authorization Sponsor (Dept. of Commerce) | H.R.13296 |
| 27. | 1/4         | Pres. G.R.Ford Federal Office Building             | H.R.11897 |
|     |             | NEW CONGRESSIONAL SESSION                          |           |
| 28. | 3/4         | Suspension of Oil Import Tariff Authority          | H.R.1767  |
| 29. | 5/1         | Emergency Agricultural Act of 1975                 | H.R.4296  |

JUNE 4, 1975

FYI -- VETO BACKGROUND MATERIAL

*gwr*

The Congressional Liaison Office says that so far in this session of the 94th Congress, the President has vetoed 5 bills:

1. The Bill Prohibiting Presidential Imposition of Oil Import Fees.  
The Congress did not attempt to override the veto; the House (which would act first) referred the bill to its Ways and Means Committee.
2. The Emergency Farm Bill.  
The House sustained the President's veto by 40 votes.
3. The Strip Mining Bill.  
The House postponed an attempt to override the veto. The vote is now scheduled for June 10.
4. The Emergency Employment Appropriations Bill.  
The House sustained the President's veto by 13 votes.
5. The Tourism Promotion Bill.  
The House has scheduled a vote to override the veto June 24th.

VETOES IN THE 94TH CONGRESS

8/75

<u>1975</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Bill No.</u>
1. March 4 (28)	Suspension of Oil Import Tariff Authority <u>Objection:</u> --Suspended the authority of the President under section 232 of Trade Expansion Act of 1962 to increase tariffs or take any other import adjustment action. (Total Vetoes - 28)	H.R.1767
2. May 1 (29)	Emergency Agricultural Act of 1975 <u>Objection:</u> --Would add \$1.8 billion to federal deficit. --Would get the federal government back into Agriculture. --Would damage our international market position. * House sustained veto on May 13.	H.R.4296
3. May 20 (30)	Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1975 <u>Objection:</u> --As many as 36,000 people could lose jobs. --Consumers would pay higher costs. --Coal production would be reduced (40-162 million tons) --Ambiguous, vague, and complex provisions. * House sustained veto on June 10	H.R.25
4. May 28 (31)	U.S. Travel Service Authority <u>Objection:</u> --Reinststitutes a domestic tourism program to encourage Americans to travel within the U.S. We feel this should remain the responsibility of the private sector (\$8 million). **President signed S.2003 on July 9, 1975, a similar bill, but deletes funds for domestic tourism activities.	H.R.5357
5. May 28 (32)	Emergency Employment Appropriation Act, 1975 <u>Objection:</u> --Authorizes \$3.3 billion above spending request. --The accelerative influences of this bill would come much too late to give impetus to this recovery, and would risk contributing to a new round of inflation. * House sustained veto on June 4. **Congress then passed the President's \$1.6 billion public service jobs program (H.J.Res.499 on 6/27) and \$413 million for summer youth (H.J.Res.492 on 6/16).	H.R.4481
6. June 24 (33)	Emergency Housing Act of 1975 <u>Objection:</u> --Provide federal subsidies to a small number of families at a cost to all taxpayers. --Duplicated authority already on the books. --Cost: \$1 billion in FY'76 * House sustained veto on June 25. **Congress then passed the President's proposal, H.R.5398 on 7/2, which authorized an additional \$10 billion in mortgage purchase assistance & emergency mortgage relief.	H.R.4485

<u>1975</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Bill No.</u>
7. July 21 (34)	Petroleum Price Review Act <u>Objection:</u> --Would increase petroleum consumption, cut domestic production, increase reliance on insecure petroleum imports (350,000 barrels a day by 1977) and avoid the issue of phasing out unwieldy price controls.	H.R.4035
8. July 25 (35)	Education Division and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1976 <u>Objection:</u> --Cost: \$7.9 billion; \$1.5 billion over budget. --Impact Aid--\$414 over budget. --Higher Education--\$434 over budget.	H.R.5901
9. July 26 (36)	Amendments to the Public Health Service Act <u>Objection:</u> --Cost: Authorizes \$550 million above budget requests for each year--FY'76 and FY'77. --Unsound from a program standpoint. Proposes extension and expansion of Community Mental Health Centers projects; authorizes several new narrow categorical grant programs which duplicate existing authorities; extends registered nurse training authorities, when nurse shortage has disappeared. * Senate overrode on July 26 * House overrode on July 29	S.66

FORD VETOES IN 93RD CONGRESS

- |     |       |  |                |
|-----|-------|--|----------------|
| 1.  | 8/12  | Upgrading of Deputy U.S. Marshals<br>--Upgrades nonsupervisory deputy U.S. Marshal positions by one, two and three grades.   | H.R. 5094      |
| 2.  | 8/14  | Animal Health Research<br>--Authorizes and directs Secretary of Agriculture to provide up to \$47 million annually in categorical grants to State educational institutions for animal health research programs & facilities. | H.R. 11873     |
| 3.  | 9/30  | Directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey all phosphate interests of the U.S. in approximately 40 acres in Polk Co., Florida to John & Martha Carter.  | H.R. 10626     |
| 4.  | 10/12 | Railroad Retirement System<br>--Finance a long-standing deficit in the retirement system ( <u>OVERRIDDEN 10/16/74</u> )  | H.R. 15301     |
| 5.  | 10/12 | Amend the Atomic Energy Act<br>--Revise the method of providing public remuneration in the event of a nuclear incident, and other purposes.  | H.R. 15323     |
| 6.  | 10/14 | Continuing Resolution<br>--Amends the Continuing Resolution to cut off military aid to Turkey.   | H.J. Res. 1111 |
| 7.  | 10/17 | Continuing Resolution (second veto)  | H.J. Res. 1113 |
| 8.  | 10/17 | Amend public access to documents provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act (Freedom of Info.)<br><u>(OVERRIDDEN 11/21/74)</u>  | H.R. 12471     |
| 9.  | 10/22 | Amends the National Wildlife Refuge System Adm. Act of 1966  | H.R. 11541     |
| 10. | 10/29 | Farm Labor Contractor Registration Act Amendments  | H.R. 11342     |
| 11. | 10/29 | Rehabilitation Act and Randolph-Sheppard Act Amendments of 1974 & W.H. Conference on Handicapped Individuals Act<br><u>(OVERRIDDEN 11/21/74) *</u>   | H.R. 14225     |
| 12. | 10/29 | Relief of Mr. Nolan Sharp  | H.R. 7768      |
| 13. | 10/29 | Relief of Alvin V. Burt, Jr., Eileen Wallace<br>--Kennedy Pope, and David Douglas Kennedy  | H.R. 6624      |
| 14. | 11/23 | Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974<br><u>(OVERRIDDEN 12/3/74)</u>   | H.R. 12628     |
| 15. | 11/26 | Duty Suspension on Certain Forms of Zinc   | H.R. 6191      |

\*The Administration feels that this bill was pocket vetoed and therefore not subject to being overridden. An identical Voc-Rehab bill was passed and sent to the White House.

FORD VETOES - 2 (93rd)

1974

16.	12/17	Willow Creek, Oregon, Water Resources Project	S.3537
17.	12/21	Health Revenue Sharing & Health Services Act of 74	H.R.14214
18.	12/21	Financing of TVA Pollution Control Expenses	H.R.11929
19.	12/30	Energy Transportation Security Act of 74	H.R.8193
20.	12/30	Surface Mining Control & Reclamation Act of 74	S.425
21.	12/31	Travel Expenses Amendments Act of 1974	S.3341

1975

22.	1/3	Milk Price Support Sponsor	S.4206
23.	1/3	Import Restrictions on Filberts	H.R.2933
24.	1/3	Agriculture Conservation Programs	S.3943
25.	1/3	Nurse Training Act of 1974	H.R.17085
26.	1/4	Maritime Authorization Sponsor (Dept. of Commerce)	H.R.13296
27.	1/4	Pres. G.R.Ford Federal Office Building	H.R.11897

October 13, 1975

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF BILLS VETOED IN  
94th CONGRESS (AND OVERRIDDEN)

Congress has overridden three major bills vetoed by the President, which, in budget outlays, adds \$1.7 billion to the deficit. In terms of budget authority, the cost is \$ 3.2B.

	<u>FY'76 (Billions)</u>	
	<u>Budget Authority</u>	<u>Budget Outlays</u>
Public Health Services	\$ .550	\$ .200
Education Act	1.5	.350
Child Nutrition	<u>1.2</u>	<u>1.1</u>
TOTAL	\$ 3.250	\$ 1.650

After the President vetoed the Emergency Housing Act of 1975, (1.024B) Congress passed a modified Housing bill at a cost of \$25 million, thus resulting in a saving of \$1 billion (actual budget outlays).

The President vetoed the Emergency Jobs bill. Congress then approved the President's initial proposal providing \$1.6 billion, exactly half the Congress proposal, for a savings of \$1.6 billion.

Presidential vetoes sustained by the Congress total almost \$4B.

Farm Bill	\$ 1.8 billion
Housing	<u>2.0</u> billion
TOTAL	\$ 3.8 billion

<u>1975</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Bill No.</u>
12. Oct. 3 (39)	National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Act Amendments of 1975 <u>Cost:</u> \$2.9B-FY'76; \$3.7B in FY'77 <u>Objections:</u> --\$1.2 billion over FY'76 budget; \$1.7 billion over FY'77 budget. --Expands Federal subsidies to children from families which do not need subsidies. --Provides 12-1/4¢ subsidy for every child's lunch, regardless of family's income. --We believe block grants should be made to the States to provide them with greater flexibility. * House and Senate overrode on 10/7/75	H.R.4222
13. Nov. 29 (40)	Expand Executive Protective Service --Expands EPS size from 850 to 1200 <u>Objections:</u> --Requires Federal government to reimburse state and local governments for protective assistance, which is local responsibility; --Authorizes retroactive reimbursement to July 1, 1974, which, implicitly, gives preferential treat- ment to NYC for expenses during Arafat's Nov. 1974 visit. --Allows EPS officers to be deployed to other U.S. cities.	H.R.12

<u>1975</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Bill No.</u>
12. Oct. 3 (39)	National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Act Amendments of 1975 <u>Cost</u> : \$2.9B-FY'76; \$3.7B in FY'77 <u>Objections</u> : --\$1.2 billion over FY'76 budget; \$1.7 billion over FY'77 budget. --Expands Federal subsidies to children from families which do not need subsidies. --Provides 12-1/4¢ subsidy for every child's lunch, regardless of family's income. --We believe block grants should be made to the States to provide them with greater flexibility. * House and Senate <u>overrode</u> on 10/7/75	H.R.4222
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14. Dec. 17 (41)	Act to Make Changes in Certain Income Tax Pro- visions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 and for other Purposes <u>Objections</u> : --Requested \$28B tax cut, coupled with a \$28B spending cut (\$395B spending ceiling for FY'77) and this bill had no such spending ceiling.	H.R.5559

9. Sept. 13  
(56)

Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Research,  
Development and Demonstration Act of 1976  
This bill would establish a 5-year, \$160  
million research, development and demon-  
stration project with ERDA to promote the  
development of an electric vehicle.

H.R.8800

Objections:

--this project is premature until the required  
improvements in batteries for such vehicles  
are developments. In addition, the Federal  
government should not be involved in this  
massive program. It is best left to private  
industry.

--also, the Federal government is required to  
purchase 7500 of these vehicles

#10--House-307/101 (9/16); Senate-53/20 (9/17) overrode

At Tab B are one pagers on your three most recent vetoes which will not be announced until tomorrow afternoon.

H.R. 12281      Suspension of duties on forms of copper

H.R. 13342      Amend Farm Labor Contractor Act of 1963

H.R. 6624        Private relief - Burt, Pope and Kennedy



H.R. 5094      Reclassification of Positions of Deputy Marshals

Vetoed: 8/12/74

This bill would have required the reclassification and upgrading of deputy United States marshals.

Most of the various departments of the executive branch told me that such legislation would be unwise and discriminatory.

That opposition was based upon the view that by singling out deputy United States marshals for significant salary increases, the Government would be creating serious pay inequities with other Federal law enforcement personnel, thus violating fundamental principles of fairness.

I fully appreciate the fine service performed by our deputy U.S. marshals, and I am aware that the Congress was prompted by a desire to ensure that their pay matched the increasing responsibilities they have assumed in recent years. But I also believe that this legislation would run directly counter to the principle of equal pay for equal work that underlies our civil service system.

H.R. 11873    Animal Health Research

Vetoed: 8/14/74

This Act would have encouraged and assisted States in carrying out programs of animal health research.

We are presently spending over \$40 million on programs involving animal health research, and nearly every land grant college and colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States is participating in these programs.

This bill would have established a new categorical grant program that would authorize an expenditure of an additional \$47 million annually and would be duplicative of many programs that already exist. The overlapping would be especially true of programs in fish and shellfish research and predator control.

Because this bill would have added further to the Federal taxpayers' burdens without significantly meeting national needs and would only add to inflationary pressures within the economy, I felt that I had to withhold my approval.

H.R. 10626    Sell Reserved Phosphate Interests of U.S.

Vetoed: 9/30/74

This bill would have directed the Secretary of the Interior to convey all phosphate interests of the United States in approximately 40 acres in Polk County, Florida to a private party upon payment of administrative costs and the fair market value of the phosphate interests.

Present law provides that phosphate interests of the United States shall be disposed of under a leasing system.

Enactment into law of this legislation would have conflicted with established policy and would confuse our action on similar proposals in the future.

H.R. 15323    Public Remuneration in the Event of Nuclear Incident

Vetoed: 10/12/74

This bill's primary purpose was to revise the method of providing public remuneration in the event of a nuclear incident.

The first eleven sections of this bill basically carried out recommendations of the AEC and I would have approved them if they stood alone.

Section 12, however, would have provided that had I approved the bill, the Joint Committee and the Congress would further consider whether it should ever become effective.

In this instance, the clear constitutional infirmity of the bill not only would have affected my powers and duties but directly endangered substantial and important private rights. If the bill is unconstitutional, it will remain unconstitutional despite my signing it. As a result, a sure source of funds for prompt payment of public liability claims, a primary objective of the Price-Anderson Act, would be in doubt. The uncertainty over nuclear liability protection would also adversely affect that private investment which will be necessary as nuclear power assumes its vital role in meeting the nation's energy requirements. The public interest would not have been served by approving legislation which creates these uncertainties.

H.R. 15301    Railroad Retirement

Vetoed: 10/12/74

This bill would finance a long-standing deficit in the Railroad Retirement System at the expense of the general taxpayer.

This bill proposes to solve the financial problems of the Railroad Retirement System by placing a seven billion dollar burden on the general taxpayer, requiring him to contribute \$285 million to the Railroad Retirement Trust Fund each year for the next twenty-five years.

At a time when the taxpayer is already carrying the double burden of taxes and inflation, legislation such as this is most inappropriate.

SPECIAL NOTE: The Congress overrode this veto and it became law 10/16/74

H.J. Res. 1131     Continuing Resolution

Vetoed: 10/14/74

H.J. Res. 1163     Continuing Resolution

Vetoed: 10/17/74

In the interest of preserving the ability of the United States to assist the governments of Greece, Turkey and Cyprus to negotiate a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus dispute, I returned to the Congress without my approval two Continuing Resolutions which the Congress amended to cut off military aid to Turkey.

My previous veto messages and my public statements on this matter have clearly expressed our objectives with respect to the resolution of the Cyprus dispute as well as the dangers posed by legislative restrictions destroying our ability to assist the parties involved. The Congress, despite the best efforts of the bipartisan leaders of both Houses, refused to recognize the realities of the situation.

H.R. 12471    Freedom of Information Act

Vetoed: 10/17/74

In August, I transmitted a letter to the conferees expressing my support for the direction of this legislation and presenting my concern with some of its provisions. Although I am gratified by the Congressional response in amending several of these provisions, significant problems were not resolved, causing me to withhold my approval.

I was quite concerned that our military or intelligence secrets and diplomatic relations could be adversely affected by this bill.

Last week I submitted language which would dispel my concerns regarding the manner of judicial review of classified material and for mitigating the administrative burden placed on the agencies by the bill that was sent to me. It was only my conviction that the bill as enrolled is unconstitutional and unworkable that caused me to return the bill without my approval. I sincerely hope that this legislation, which has come so far toward realizing its laudable goals, will be reenacted with the changes I propose and returned to me for signature during this session of Congress.

H.R. 11541    Amend National Wildlife Refuge System  
Administration Act of 1966

Vetoed: 10/22/74

This bill would have added a new standard in determining the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to allow certain rights-of-way across lands of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

If we are to have adequate energy-transmission and communication facilities, we must have rights-of-way on which to locate them.

I believe that such protection is properly provided under existing law which requires environmental impact review and further requires the Secretary of the Interior to determine that granting a right-of-way across a national wildlife refuge must be compatible with the purposes for which the refuge had been established.

In short, our wildlife refuges are properly protected by existing law. We should avoid changes in the law that could create further obstacles and delays in the construction of vitally needed facilities, particularly those facilities designed to help meet urgent energy needs.

Accordingly, I withheld my approval from this bill.

B



H.R. 12281    Suspension of Duties on Certain Forms of Copper

This bill would have amended the Tariff Schedules by suspending the duties on certain forms of copper such as copper-bearing ores, scrap, blister, and refined copper.

Unfortunately, the Congress attached to this desirable bill an unacceptable tax rider which would provide tax relief of nearly \$1.4 million for a specific corporation by permitting it to treat as a deduction a damage payment that it made in 1959 on behalf of a corporation it had acquired three years earlier and liquidated less than two years after such acquisition.

The tax code should not be changed so as to undo the consequences of an individual's assumption of risk or error. To do so would invite others who, in retrospect, find that they have made an error in corporate tax planning to similarly petition the Congress for relief, thereby diverting attention from pressing public business.

H.R. 13342     The Farm Labor Contractor Registration Act  
Amendments of 1974

This bill contained provisions designed to strengthen the protections of migrant farm workers under that Act, which I support. I did not approve the bill, however, because it contained an unrelated rider which creates serious inequities and distortions in the Federal personnel system.

This rider would arbitrarily reclassify hearing officer positions in the Department of Labor, and make existing hearing officers Administrative Law Judges regardless of their qualifications.

It would also legislatively classify and pay at the GS-16 level these newly designated Administrative Law Judges for the "black lung" program. Such a provision would arbitrarily impose a grade level without due regard for the relative complexity and difficulty of the work involved. By over-classifying certain positions, it would be disruptive of the principle of equal pay for equal work. For these reasons, I have withheld my approval of this bill.

H.R. 6624

Private Relief Bill for Burt, Pope and Kennedy  
(Miami Herald Reporters)

This bill would have provided for payment, "as a gratuity," of \$45,482 to Mr. Burt and for similar payments of \$36,750 each to the widow and son of Douglas E. Kennedy for injuries and other damages Mr. Burt and Mr. Kennedy sustained as a result of gunshot wounds inflicted by U.S. military personnel in the Dominican Republic in 1965.

I considered carefully the merits of this case, but could not approve it. Equitable considerations growing out of governmental actions have traditionally been the basis for private relief awards where no legal remedy is available. But the record clearly establishes that no such considerations are present in this case.

I urge that in the future Congress adhere to the traditional equity basis for awards, whether or not they have been recommended by the Court of Claims under Congressional reference procedures.