

**The original documents are located in Box 24, folder “Vetoes” of the Michael Raoul-Duval Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 23, 1976

*Jim -  
Here's the  
info on*

*vetoed -  
file*

*FDR gets the grand  
prize -  
Regular vetoes 322  
Pocket 263  
TOTAL 635  
White*

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MIKE DUVAL

FROM:

JERRY POPEO *JP*

Attached is the information on Presidential vetoes. It includes the totals, as well as a description of the actual vetoes.

While I am not sure how this will be applied, two things should be pointed out:

1. It is easy to determine how many bills were overridden. However, in determining whether a bill was "sustained" you can run into a definitional problem. Two schools of thought exist. One considers "sustained" to be only those bills which actually came to a vote by the Congress. The other says that even bills which were vetoed and sent back to a Congressional committee, can be considered "sustained".

Because of this definitional problem, I would recommend that, if possible for your use, you avoid the use of the word "sustained" by logically applying the fact that a bill has not been overridden as being given "tacit approval".

2. The figures can be misleading in that previous Administrations (e.g., FDR) appear to have vetoed a large number of bills. However, you should be aware, as an examination of the attached blue book will indicate, that several of these vetoed bills related to personal relief. Personal relief bills, prior to early in the Nixon Administration, were submitted on a case-by-case basis instead of the present practice of joining several requests for personal relief into one bill. Obviously, this change in procedures has had an effect on the number of bills vetoed.

## STATISTICAL

### NUMERICAL SUMMARY OF BILLS VETOED AND ACTION TAKEN THERE- ON BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE BETWEEN 1789 AND 1968

President	Congresses coincident with terms	Regular veto	Pocket veto	Total vetoes	Vetoes over-ridden
George Washington	1,2,3,4	2		2	
John Adams	5,6				
Thomas Jefferson	7,8,9,10				
James Madison	11,12,13,14	5	2	7	
James Monroe	15,16,17,18	1		1	
John Q. Adams	19,20				
Andrew Jackson	21,22,23,24	5	7	12	
Martin Van Buren	25,26		1	1	
W. H. Harrison	27				
John Tyler	27,28	6	4	10	1
James K. Polk	29,30	2	1	3	
Zachary Taylor	31				
Millard Fillmore	31,32				
Franklin Pierce	33,34	9		9	5
James Buchanan	35,36	4	3	7	
Abraham Lincoln	37,38,39	2	4	6	
Andrew Johnson	39,40	21	8	29	15
Ulysses S. Grant	41,42,43,44	45	48	93	4
Rutherford B. Hayes	45,46	12	1	13	1
James A. Garfield	47				
Chester A. Arthur	47,48	4	8	12	1
Grover Cleveland	49,50	304	110	414	2
Benjamin Harrison	51,52	19	25	44	1
Grover Cleveland	53,54	42	128	170	5
William McKinley	55,56,57	6	36	42	
Theodore Roosevelt	57,58,59,60	42	40	82	1
William H. Taft	61,62	30	9	39	1
Woodrow Wilson	63,64,65,66	33	11	44	6
Warren G. Harding	67	5	1	6	
Calvin Coolidge	68,69,70	20	30	50	4
Herbert Hoover	71,72	21	16	37	3
Franklin D. Roosevelt	73,74,75,76, 77,78,79	372	263	635	9
Harry S. Truman	79,80,81,82	180	70	250	12
Dwight D. Eisenhower	83,84,85,86	73	108	181	2
John F. Kennedy	87,88	12	9	21	
Lyndon B. Johnson	88,89,90	16	14	30	
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,293</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>2,250</b>	<b>73</b>

<u>PRESIDENT</u>	<u>REGULAR</u>	<u>POCKET</u>	<u>OVERRIDDEN</u>
<u>BISENHOWER</u>			
1953	4	6	-
1954	17	25	-
1955	3	8	-
1956	9	14	-
1957	3	9	-
1958	15	24	-
1959	10	10	1
1960	12	12	1
TOTALS	73	108 = 181	2

<u>KENNEDY</u>			
1961	6	2	-
1962	5	7	-
1963	1	-	-
TOTALS	12	9 = 21	-

<u>JOHNSON</u>			
1963	-	2	-
1964	4	2	-
1965	7	-	-
1966	3	4	-
1967	2	1	-
1968	-	5	-
TOTALS	16	14 = 30	-

<u>NIXON</u>			
1969	-	-	-
1970	7	4	2
1971	2	1	-
1972	4	13	2
1973	9	1	1
1974	2	-	-
TOTALS	= 24	19 = 43	5

<u>FORD</u>			
1974	12	15	* 3
1975	17	-	4
1976			



TOTAL NUMBER OF VETCES — 49 (7 of these have been overridden)  
(6/23/76)