

for Certain Employees, as amended, and for other purposes;

H.R. 13964. An act for the relief of Jeanette Green, as mother of the minor child, Ricky Baker, deceased, and as widow and administratrix of the estate of Enoch Odell Baker, deceased; and for the relief of Mary Jane Baker Nolan, individually, and as widow and administratrix, of the estate of John William Baker, deceased;

H.R. 14227. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release a condition with respect to certain real property conveyed by the United States to the board of regents of the universities and State colleges of Arizona for the use of the University of Arizona;

H.R. 14451. An act to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to permit the donation of Federal surplus personal property to the States and local organizations for public purposes, and for other purposes;

H.R. 15276. An act to amend the District of Columbia Police and Firemen's Salary Act of 1953 to provide for the same cost-of-living adjustments in the basic compensation of officers and members of the U.S. Park Police force as are given to Federal employees under the General Schedule and to require submission of a report on the feasibility and desirability of codifying the laws relating to the U.S. Park Police force;

H.R. 15445. An act to study and provide enhanced protection for whales, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 15813. An act to amend the Act of June 3, 1976, relating to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

On October 18, 1976:

H.J. Res. 1107. Joint resolution to provide for the printing and distribution of the Precedents of the House of Representatives compiled and prepared by Lewis Deschler.

H.R. 5682. An act to extend the boundary of the Tinicum National Environmental Center, and for other purposes;

H.R. 8002. An act to designate certain lands in the Point Reyes National Seashore, Calif., as wilderness, amending the Act of September 13, 1962 (76 Stat. 538), as amended (16 U.S.C. 459c-6a), and for other purposes.

H.R. 11455. An act to amend the act establishing the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore to provide for the expansion of the lakeshore, and for other purposes;

H.R. 11891. An act to authorize the establishment of the Congaree Swamp National Monument in the State of South Carolina, and for other purposes;

H.R. 12939. An act to amend certain laws affecting personnel of the Coast Guard, and for other purposes;

H.R. 12961. An act to amend the Social Security Act to repeal the requirement that a State's plan for medical assistance under title XIX of such act include a provision giving consent of the State to certain suits brought with respect to payment for inpatient hospital services;

H.R. 14041. An act to amend the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 with respect to the computation of annuity amounts in certain cases, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 15531. An act to permit the use of unsworn declarations under penalty of perjury as evidence in Federal proceedings.

On October 19, 1976:

H.R. 10133. An act to upgrade the position of Under Secretary of Agriculture to Deputy Secretary of Agriculture; to provide for an additional Assistant Secretary of Agriculture; to increase the compensation of certain officials of the Department of Agriculture; to provide for an additional member of the Board of Directors, Commodity Credit Corporation; and for other purposes;

H.R. 12033. An act to continue until the close of June 30, 1979, the existing suspension of duties on manganese ore (including ferruginous ore) and related products;

H.R. 13955. An act to provide for amend-

ment of the Bretton Woods Agreements Act, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 15571. An act to amend chapter 21 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 and title II of the Social Security Act to provide that the payment of social security taxes by a nonprofit organization with respect to its employees shall constitute (for both tax and benefit purposes) a constructive filing by such organization of the certificate otherwise required to provide social security coverage for such employees if it has not received a refund or credit of such taxes, and to require the filing of such a certificate by any nonprofit organization which paid such taxes but received a refund or credit because it had not previously filed such certificate.

On October 20, 1976:

H.R. 1144. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 with respect to the tax treatment of social clubs and certain other membership organizations, to provide for a study of tax incentives for recycling, and for other purposes;

H.R. 7228. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 to permit the authorization of means other than stamp on containers of distilled spirits as evidence of tax payment, to provide an extension of certain provisions relating to members of the Armed Forces missing in action, and for other purposes;

H.R. 9719. An act to provide for certain payments to be made to local governments by the Secretary of the Interior based upon the amount of certain public lands within the boundaries of such locality;

H.R. 10210. An act to require States to extend unemployment compensation coverage to certain previously uncovered workers; to increase the amount of the wages subject to the Federal unemployment tax; to increase the rate of such tax; and for other purposes;

H.R. 12207. An act to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended, to correct unintended inequities in the interest rate criteria for borrowers from the Rural Electrification Administration, and to make other technical amendments;

H.R. 13160. An act to designate certain lands within units of the National Park System as wilderness; to revise the boundaries of certain of those units; and for other purposes; and

H.R. 14535. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act, and for other purposes.

On October 21, 1976:

H.R. 2735. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the quality of hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care in Veterans' Administration health care facilities; to make certain technical and conforming amendments; and for other purposes;

H.R. 9460. An act to provide for the establishment of constitutions for the Virgin Islands and Guam;

H.R. 10192. An act to amend title 14, United States Code, to provide for the non-discriminatory appointment of cadets to the United States Coast Guard Academy;

H.R. 11315. An act to define the jurisdiction of United States courts in suits against foreign states, the circumstances in which foreign states are immune from suit and in which execution may not be levied on their property, and for other purposes;

H.R. 12572. An act to amend the United States Grain Standards Act to improve the grain inspection and weighing system, and for other purposes;

H.R. 13500. An act to amend the Social Security Act with respect to food stamp purchases by welfare recipients;

H.R. 13713. An act to provide for increases in appropriation ceilings and boundary changes in certain units of the National Park System, and for other purposes;

H.R. 13828. An act to amend title 44, United States Code, to strengthen the authority of the Administrator of General Services with respect to records management by Federal agencies, and for other purposes; and H.R. 15563. An act to amend the act of July 9, 1965 (79 Stat. 213; 16 U.S.C. 4601-17 (c)), and for other purposes.

BILLS DISAPPROVED AFTER SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

The President announced his disapproval of the following bills with memorandums of disapproval as follows:

H.R. 4654

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

I have withheld my approval from H.R. 4654, a bill "For the relief of Day's Sportswear, Incorporated."

H.R. 4654 appears to relate to the same claim as presented in *B. A. McKenzie and Co., Inc. v. United States*, United States Customs Court #74-6-01520. Another known similar claim on behalf of another importer is pending in the case of *George S. Bush and Co., Inc. v. United States*, United States Customs Court #73-9-02693.

The United States Government is presently defending these two cases and the United States Customs Court is expected to rule. Briefly, the litigation involves the applicability of certain customs duties.

I believe that the courts should be permitted to rule in these cases in due course. I am also concerned that my approval of H.R. 4654 could inappropriately predispose the court's ruling. Further, H.R. 4654 would constitute preferred treatment of one importer against others having similar claims against the Government.

Finally, I believe that private relief legislation is appropriate only after all other avenues of available administrative and legal recourse have been pursued.

For these reasons, I have withheld my approval from H.R. 4654.

H.R. 5446

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

I am today withholding my signature from H.R. 5446, a bill to implement the United States obligations under the Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972.

The bill includes a provision which I believe to be unconstitutional. It would empower either the House of Representatives or the Senate to block amendments to the Convention's regulations merely by passing a resolution of disapproval.

This provision is incompatible with the express provision in the Constitution that a resolution having the force and effect of law must be presented to the President and, if disapproved, repassed by a two-thirds majority in the Senate and the House of Representatives. It extends to the Congress the power to prohibit specific transactions authorized by law without changing the law—and without following the constitutional process such a change would require. Moreover, it would involve the Congress directly in the performance of Executive functions in disregard of the fundamental principle of separation of powers.

I believe that this procedure is contrary to the Constitution, and that my approval of it would threaten an erosion of the constitutional powers and responsibilities of the President. I have already directed the Attorney General to become a party plaintiff in a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of a similar provision in the Federal Election Campaign Act.

In addition, this provision would allow the House of Representatives to block adoption of what is essentially an amendment to a treaty, a responsibility which is reserved by the Constitution to the Senate.

This legislation would forge impermissible shackles on the President's ability to carry out the laws and conduct the foreign relations of the United States. The President cannot function effectively in domestic matters, and speak for the Nation authoritatively in foreign affairs, if his decisions under authority previously conferred can be reversed by a bare majority of one House of the Congress.

The Convention—which has already been approved by the Senate—makes important changes in the international rules for safe navigation. It will enter into force in July 1977. The United States should become a party to it. If the United States does not implement the Convention before it enters into force, there will be major differences between the navigational rules followed by U.S. ships and by the ships of many other countries. These differences will increase the danger of collisions at sea and create hazards to life and property at sea.

I strongly urge the 95th Congress to pass legislation early next year that will be consistent with our Constitution, so that the United States can implement the Convention before it enters into force.

H.R. 10073

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

I have withheld my approval from H.R. 10073, "An Act to provide for the mandatory inspection of domesticated rabbits slaughtered for human food, and for other purposes."

This bill would make applicable to domesticated rabbits, with minor exceptions, the provisions of the Poultry Products Inspection Act. It would require the Secretary of Agriculture to implement a mandatory inspection program for all domesticated rabbit meat sold in commerce, with certain exemptions related to type and volume of operations.

It should be noted that the Food and Drug Administration now inspects rabbit meat to ensure that it complies with Federal pure food laws. Thus, there is no health protection reason for requiring mandatory Agriculture Department inspection of rabbit meat.

The effect of this act would be to substitute a mandatory taxpayer-financed Agriculture Department inspection program for a voluntary one that is now provided under another law and paid for by the processors and consumers of rabbit meat. Since the voluntary program already provides a means for certifying wholesomeness to those consumers who demand such protection for this specialty food and are willing to pay for the

protection, I do not believe that a mandatory program is wise public policy.

In addition, it is estimated that the cost to the taxpayer of government inspection provided by this Act could be more than ten cents per pound.

The limited benefit to be derived by a relative few consumers of rabbit meat cannot be justified in terms of the cost to the taxpayer. I am therefore not approving H.R. 10073.

GERALD R. FORD

THE WHITE HOUSE.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4112. A letter from the General Counsel, U.S. General Accounting Office, transmitting a report on the release of budget authority required to be made available for obligation pursuant to section 1013(b) of the Impoundment Control Act of 1974; to the Committee on Appropriations.

4113. A letter from the Secretary of the Army, transmitting the annual report of the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home for fiscal year 1975, and the report of the annual general inspection of the home for 1976 by the Inspector General, pursuant to the act of March 3, 1883, as amended [24 U.S.C. 59, 60]; to the Committee on Armed Services.

4114. A letter from the Deputy Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting a report on actions taken on recommendations contained in the annual report for fiscal year 1975 of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, dated July 25, 1975, pursuant to section 6(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act; to the Committee on Government Operations.

4115. A letter from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting the annual report and audit of the American National Red Cross for the year ended June 30, 1975, pursuant to section 6 of the act of January 5, 1905, as amended; to the Committee on International Relations.

4116. A letter from the General Counsel, U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, transmitting an interim report on progress in the study of the impact on military expenditures of arms control measures mutually agreed to by the United States and the Soviet Union, pursuant to section 142 of Public Law 94-141; to the Committee on International Relations.

4117. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to section 112 (b) of Public Law 92-403; to the Committee on International Relations.

4118. A letter from the Chairman, U.S. Consumer Safety Commission, transmitting the fourth annual report of the Commission, covering fiscal year 1976, pursuant to section 27(j) of the Consumer Product Safety Act; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

4119. A letter from the Administrator, Federal Energy Administration, transmitting a report on changes in market shares of retail gasoline marketers during May and June 1976, pursuant to section 4(c)(2)(A) of the Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act of 1970; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

4120. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, transmitting his initial report on the operation of the speedy trial plans adopted by the U.S. district courts under title I of the Speedy Trial Act, and the operation of pretrial services agencies established in 10 district courts on

a demonstration basis under title II of the act, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3155 and 3167; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4121. A letter from the Vice Chairman, Father Marquette Tercentenary Commission, transmitting the final report of the Commission, pursuant to section 2 of Public Law 89-187; to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

4122. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting a supplement to the first annual report recommending deauthorization of certain projects, pursuant to section 12 of Public Law 93-251; (H.Doc. No. 94-654) to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation and ordered to be printed.

4123. A letter from the district engineer, Tulsa District, Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army, transmitting a draft plan of study of the water and related land resources of the Canadian River basin downstream of the Texas-New Mexico State line; to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation.

4124. A letter from the Chairman, Joint Committee on Congressional Operations, transmitting a draft of a proposed resolution to amend the House rules for the purpose of assisting in the reduction of the number of committees meeting on certain days of each month, pursuant to section 206 of the Committee Reform Amendments of 1974 (H. Res. 988); to the Committee on Rules.

4125. A letter from the Vice Chairman, U.S. International Trade Commission, transmitting the seventh quarterly report on trade between the United States and non-market economy countries, pursuant to section 410 of the Trade Act of 1974; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

RECEIVED FROM THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL

4126. A letter from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting a report on "buy-national" practices of the United States and some of its major trading partners; to the Committee on Government Operations.

4127. A letter from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting a report on the effectiveness of the Army's direct supply support system; jointly, to the Committees on Government Operations, and Armed Services.

4128. A letter from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting a report evaluating actions taken by the Energy Research and Development Administration in publishing and distributing copies of a pamphlet entitled "Shedding Light on Facts About Nuclear Energy" before the referendum on nuclear energy in California; jointly, to the Committee on Government Operations, and the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. ULLMAN: Committee of conference. Conference report on H.R. 10210 (Rept. No. 94-1745). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. BROOKS: Committee on Government Operations. Administration of Public Law 89-306, procurement of ADP resources by the Federal Government (Rept. No. 94-1746). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. FOLEY: Committee on Agriculture. H. Res. 1399. Resolution expressing the sense of the House relative to foreign palm oil development loans (Rept. No. 94-1747, pt. I) Ordered to be printed.

Mr. FOLEY: Committee on Agriculture. H. Res. 1400. Resolution expressing the sense of the House relative to a study by the Sec-