

VETO OF H.R. 6198

---

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

VETOING

H.R. 6198, AN ACT TO AMEND THE MANUFACTURING CLAUSE  
OF THE COPYRIGHT LAW



July 12, 1982.—Ordered to be printed

---

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

WASHINGTON : 1982



*To the House of Representatives:*

I am returning without my approval H.R. 6198, a bill that would extend for four years the "manufacturing clause" of the U.S. copyright law that expired on June 30, 1982.

The manufacturing clause requires that many printed materials be printed in the United States in order to enjoy copyright protection. The clause was written into law nearly a century ago, in an effort to strengthen our relatively new printing industry by limiting foreign competition. However, the "infant industry" justification for protecting our printing industry is no longer valid; our industry is now one of the most modern and efficient in the world.

During the recent Tokyo Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, our trading partners objected to the manufacturing clause as inconsistent with our international obligations. Extensions of the clause, as provided in H.R. 6198, could result in increased international trade tensions that could endanger American jobs. I would further note that if the printing or publishing industry believes itself injured, or threatened by injury, due to the expiration of the manufacturing clause, it has the option of requesting relief under the Trade Act.

My Administration has placed a very high priority on strengthening free trade, and we are energetically seeking to remove artificial foreign barriers to American exports. We are confident that our free enterprise system will enable American products to face foreign competition in our own open market and to do well in markets overseas, provided our access to those markets is not blocked by protectionist barriers that distort international competition.

Given the importance of our efforts to remove foreign trade barriers, it would be self-defeating to extend an artificial barrier of our own. For these reasons, I cannot approve H.R. 6198.

RONALD REAGAN.

THE WHITE HOUSE. *July 8, 1982.*

# Ninety-seventh Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the twenty-fifth day of January,  
one thousand nine hundred and eighty-two*

## An Act

To amend the manufacturing clause of the copyright law.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the  
United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 601(a)  
of chapter 6 of title 17 of the United States Code is amended by  
striking out "1982" and inserting in lieu thereof "1986".*

William H. Natcher

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

Speaker Pro Tempore

George Bush

*Vice President of the United States and  
President of the Senate.*

I certify that this Act originated in the House of Representatives.

Edmund L. Henshaw, Jr.  
Clerk

By Thomas E. Ladd

Assistant to the Clerk

