

must, and will, continue, a President's Council on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention is not necessary at this time.

RONALD REAGAN.

THE WHITE HOUSE, November 5, 1986.

On November 6, 1986:

CLEAN WATER ACT AMENDMENTS

I am withholding my approval of S. 1128, the "Water Quality Act of 1986."

On March 26, 1985, Lee M. Thomas, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, sent to the Congress a proposal to amend and reauthorize appropriations under the Clean Water Act. As that proposal demonstrated, this Administration remains committed to the Act's objectives, and I am proud that we can report remarkable progress in this massive national cleanup effort.

Unfortunately, this bill so far exceeds acceptable levels of intended budgetary commitments that I must withhold my approval. Central to my proposal of last year was the phasing-out over a period of four years, and the termination by 1990, of the huge sewage treatment grant program. With the backlog of needed treatment plants financed in major part by the Federal government since 1972, it is now necessary for the Federal government to reduce its expenditures and complete the transition from Federal to State and local responsibility. The Environmental Protection Agency has already spent \$44 billion to assist municipalities in meeting a need that was estimated to be \$18 billion when the program was established in 1972. My proposal would have extended another \$6 billion to finish the projects that had been started with Federal funds.

Notwithstanding my recommendations, S. 1128 would authorize \$18 billion or triple the amount I requested for that grant program, expand the allowable uses of Federal funds, and continue Federal grants for another nine years. By 1993 S. 1128 would increase outlays by as much as \$10 billion over the projections in my 1987 Budget and would reverse important reforms enacted in 1981 that targeted funds to the completion of construction of sewage treatment plants—the program's original and principal remaining purpose.

S. 1128 makes several programmatic changes that would improve the overall Clean Water Act, including expanded Federal enforcement authorities and an easing of the regulatory and financial burden on cities in dealing with stormwater discharges. We will work diligently with the 100th Congress to address these concerns. S. 1128 also would authorize some new programs—at a five-year total of \$500 million—that my Administration has strongly opposed. Principal among them is the reinstatement of a Federal financial assistance program to pay for local plans to control diffuse sources of pollution. Over \$500 million was spent on a similar program between 1973 and 1981 with little or no positive result. Restarting expensive planning

grant programs that have failed in the past is not justifiable.

For these reasons, I cannot approve S. 1128. I must emphasize, however, that my action will have no impact on the current conduct of water pollution control programs under the Clean Water Act. All regulatory, enforcement, and permit issuance activities will continue under permanent law. Although authorization to appropriate for the sewage treatment grant program and other grant and research programs expired between 1983 and 1985, funds have been appropriated for them annually, and they are funded in the Continuing Resolution for 1987.

My Administration will work closely with the next Congress to pass acceptable legislation. We will continue our commitment to improve and protect our Nation's water quality by working with the Congress to modify current law to help cities handle stormwater discharge permits.

RONALD REAGAN.

THE WHITE HOUSE, November 6, 1986.

On November 14, 1986:

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION ACT

I am withholding my approval of H.R. 5495, the "National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act, 1987."

This legislation would authorize appropriations for 1987 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); authorize appropriations for the Office of Commercial Space Transportation in the Department of Transportation; establish a National Space Council in the Executive Office of the President to advise me on space-related matters; make numerous other amendments involving the Space Shuttle; amend the Land Remote-Sensing Commercialization Act in various respects; and authorize appropriations for a variety of programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in the Department of Commerce.

The establishment of a National Space Council in the Executive Office of the President would constitute unacceptable interference with my discretion and flexibility in organizing and managing the Executive Office as I consider appropriate. Besides creating additional and unnecessary bureaucracy, the National Space Council would duplicate the functions of the interagency bodies—the Senior Interagency Group (Space), the Interagency Group (Space), and the Economic Policy Council—that already coordinate the development and implementation of space policy. Because the proposed National Space Council would unnecessarily limit my authority to organize and manage the Executive Office while offering nothing by way of improvement in space policymaking, I am compelled to reject it.

I find two other provisions of H.R. 5495 troublesome. First, by mandating certain space shuttle launch priorities, the bill does not adequately recognize

the importance the Administration places on the development of a commercial space launch industry or my specific decision to allow NASA to launch certain foreign payloads. Second, section 111 of H.R. 5495 would impose a "buy America" restriction on certain NASA procurement activities, in violation of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade Agreement on Government Procurement. Enactment of this proposal could subject the United States to significant retaliation by other countries.

Withholding of my approval of this legislation should not be interpreted as any diminution of my support for our Nation's space program. I strongly support and affirm the goals of that program and of United States space policy to strengthen national security, maintain our leadership in space, and promote international cooperation in space. I also stress that my action on H.R. 5495 will in no way adversely affect the Federal government's ongoing space programs. Adequate funding for those programs for 1987 has already been appropriated in the recently enacted Continuing Resolution (Public Law 99-500).

RONALD REAGAN.

THE WHITE HOUSE, November 14, 1986.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1986

APPOINTMENT SUBSEQUENT TO SINE DIE  
ADJOURNMENT

BOARD OF REGENTS OF SMITHSONIAN  
INSTITUTION

Subsequent to the sine die adjournment of the Senate,

Under the authority of the resolution S. Res. 510, agreed to on Thursday, October 16, 1986,

The VICE PRESIDENT, on Monday, November 24, 1986, appointed Senator DANIEL P. MOYNIHAN as a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.