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October 1, 1976

SUBJECT:

STATUS OF LEGISLATION

From September 20th to the present, 73 bills have been received at the White House.

The President has acted on 26 of these bills.

Another 18 bills have been passed, including those passed last night, but they have not yet been received. We expect the total of bills to exceed 30 before Congress recesses or adjourns tonight.

This flood of bills at the end of the session is not unusual. It happens every year.

GUIDANCE: You may want to use these facts to show why the President must remain in Washington, if it can be done in a non-defensive way.

BACKGROUND: A list of recently received bills is attached. They range from major legislation such as the Tax Bill to minor bills for relief of private individuals.

JBS

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Q. Why have all these individuals withdrawn their names from candidacy?

A. There is no thread which runs through the various withdrawals.

William Coleman had to resign upon his nomination to become Secretary of Transportation.

Denison Kitchel withdrew his name because of <sup>personal reasons.</sup> (deteriorating hearing) which ~~made it very difficult for him to follow any kind of group discussion.~~

Dean Abraham Goldstein of Yale Law School withdrew because he had made commitments for the academic year 1975-1976 in London and Jerusalem. He thought that whoever was on the Board was under an obligation to give it undivided attention. Between the hearings on the nominations and procedural matters, he was not sanguine that the Board as constituted would be able to complete its preliminary work before his departure for England in the late summer, and for that reason thought it proper that his name be withdrawn.

Judge Omer Franklin withdrew because he had almost simultaneously with his appointment been given increased responsibilities with the Atlanta Bar, and he felt that he could not do justice to both sets of responsibilities at the same time.

Benito M. Lopez withdrew because he felt that the allocation of time and energy that would be required of him in the position would have a serious adverse effect on his obligations to his law firm and its clients.

December 16, 1975

SUBJECT:

UPDATE ON MAJOR LEGISLATION

Common Situs

- Has cleared Congress and on way to White House.
- Passed Senate 52-43 last night (12/15).
- Passed House Thursday, (12/11) 229-189.

Energy Bill

- Passed the House last night 236-160 after two sections were removed, one, \$185 million to encourage advanced automotive technology and two, a provision making expansion of existing coal mines eligible for \$750 million of loan guarantees to help small co-operators open new mines.
- The Conference report now goes to the Senate.

Tax Bill

- A six month extension of present tax cuts passed Senate last night, 73-19.
- The bill now goes to a House-Senate Conference since the House has passed a one-year extension, 257-168. On a previous motion to recommit with instructions for a \$395 billion ceiling, that motion lost 220-202.

JGC

December 11, 1975

SUBJECT:

SEVEN APPROPRIATIONS BILLS  
PENDING FINAL ACTION

Of 15 total appropriation bills, the President has signed eight, which are listed below, one has just arrived at the White House, that being the Labor-HEW bill, which he may veto since it is about \$1 billion over budget. There are still six appropriation bills to be passed by Congress.

The following appropriation bills have been signed by the President:

- Agriculture
- Education
- HUD and Independent Agencies
- Legislative Branch
- Military Construction
- State-Justice-Commerce
- Transportation
- Treasury-Postal Service

The following appropriation bills are still pending in Congress:

- Defense
- District of Columbia
- Foreign Assistance
- Interior
- Public Works and AEC
- Supplemental (First, 1975)

JGC

BILL SIGNING

Q. Has the President acted on \_\_\_\_\_ bill?

A. There were 14 bills which were announced here in Washington yesterday afternoon. They have been made available in the bins. As far as action taken by the President late yesterday or this morning, we do not have an announcement at this time on that. However, we do anticipate to announce the action on several bills sometime later today and we will post that as early as possible during the afternoon.

Q. How many bills have been acted on and how many remain?

A. The President has acted on a total of 63 pieces of legislation. By my calculation, a total of 78 other pieces of legislation remain to be acted on. The final date for all but a very few of these bills is Saturday (January 4) at midnight. So I would anticipate there will announcement of action on bills today, Saturday and possibly Sunday.

(FYI: On totals, we originally said there were 158 bills sent down on the final push at the end of the session. However, totalling of the bills which arrived on Tuesday after the session ended on Friday, ( the figure is 141. )



October 10, 1974

SUBJECT: STATUS OF LEGISLATION AT OR  
COMING TO THE WHITE HOUSE

RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACT OF 1974 (H.R.15301) (Last date--10/12)

No final decision has been made whether to sign or veto this legislation. The President is in the process, along with his staff, of reviewing the bill in its entirety. FYI: The Railroad Retirement System, under current law, is headed for a bankruptcy by the early 1980's. This bill will solve the financial problem, but impose a \$7 billion burden on the taxpayer. The taxpayer will be asked to contribute \$285 million to the Railroad Retirement Trust Fund each year for the next 25 years. END FYI.

AMENDMENTS TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (H.R.12471)

Last day for action is October 19.

The President has one major concern about this bill, and that is at the present time under consideration. No final decision has been made to sign or veto this legislation, but we would expect a decision soon.

The President is very concerned about the provision in the bill which allows judges the ultimate right to determine what the classification of a certain classified document should be. As you can well imagine, the National Security people are one of those most concerned about this provision.

AMENDMENTS TO THE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT OF 1954 (H.R.15323)

Last day for action is October 12.

It is my understanding, that in our opinion, there are some constitutional problems in this legislation. No final decisions have been made, but the President and his staff continue to review this legislation.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME CHANGE (H.R.16102)

Last day for action is October 15.

I would expect the President to sign this in the next few days.

(More)

INCREASE IN G.I. BILL BENEFITS

This bill has not yet been received at the White House. It is my understanding that the Conference Report has been completed, but both Houses must yet vote.

No final decision has been made on the President signing this legislation, but I would remind you that in his speech in Chicago, the President stated that, "The Veterans deserve an increase to keep up with the cost of living, somewhere in the area of 18-19%. This bill calls for a 22.7% increase. Therefore, I would not rule out the possibility of a veto."

CARGO PREFERENCE

This bill has not yet arrived at the White House, so would not be able to give you any definitive word on whether the President will or will not sign this legislation.

CAMPAIGN REFORM

This bill has not yet arrived at the White House. It is my understanding that the Senate has passed the Conference Report, and it will probably come up for action in the House today. We would expect to receive that bill at the White House in the next few days. No final decision has been made by the President on whether he will sign it or not. (If pushed, "Many of the President's main objections in the bill have been removed or softened. I would say that this would improve the chances for the President signing the bill.")

ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

It is my understanding that the Conference Report passed the House yesterday and is up in the Senate today. We expect to have that bill down at the White House very soon, possibly tomorrow, and I would expect the President to sign it.



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

Question:

Ron, we have been asking for a long time for a specific case where this legislation would make a difference and you have refused to cite any case to us. Can you do so now?

Answer:

First of all, the President is proposing this legislation because he thinks that it will make a difference in a significant proportion of the cases that may come up in the future. With respect to cases that have been decided in the past, I think it is fair to say that if you read the opinions in a number of these cases, you will find that the analysis that the courts have used is different from the analysis required by the proposed legislation. In this regard, I suggest you review the Denver, ~~Philadelphia~~ and Wilmington cases, for example. [ I want to stress, however, that had those cases been tried under the procedures specified in this legislation, more extensive evidence might have been presented and some of those cases might well have come out with the same result. ]

District court

Ron,  
CANNON  
WALDL. R.C.  
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SCHMULTS  
Bobbly  
WANTS IT LEFT  
IN Bobbie

