

of Title II could interfere with certain of my exclusive constitutional powers, and I urge the Congress to correct these constitutional deficiencies.

For the reasons stated, I am compelled to return H.R. 2709 without my approval.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
June 23, 1998.

Message to the Senate Transmitting the Niue-United States Maritime Boundary Treaty With Documentation

June 23, 1998

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, the Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Niue on the Delimitation of Maritime Boundary. The Treaty was signed in Wellington May 13, 1997. The report of the Department of State is enclosed for the information of the Senate.

The sole purpose of the Treaty is to establish a maritime boundary in the South Pacific Ocean between the United States territory of American Samoa and Niue. The 279-mile boundary runs in a general east-west direction, with the United States islands of American Samoa to the north, and Niue to the south. The boundary defines the limit within which the United States and Niue may exercise maritime jurisdiction, which includes fishery and other exclusive economic zone jurisdiction.

Niue is in free association with New Zealand. Although it is self-governing on internal matters,

Niue conducts its foreign affairs in conjunction with New Zealand. Niue has declared, and does manage, its exclusive economic zone. Therefore, the United States requested, and received, confirmation from New Zealand that the Government of Niue had the requisite competence to enter into this agreement with the United States and to undertake the obligations contained therein.

I believe this Treaty to be fully in the interest of the United States. It reflects the tradition of cooperation and close ties with Niue in this region. This boundary was never disputed.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to this Treaty and advice and consent to ratification.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
June 23, 1998.

Message to the Senate Transmitting the Belize-United States Stolen Vehicle Treaty With Documentation

June 23, 1998

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Belize for the Return of Stolen Vehicles, with Annexes and Protocol, signed at Belmopan on October 3, 1996. I transmit also, for the information of the Senate, the report

of the Department of State with respect to the Treaty.

The Treaty is one of a series of stolen vehicle treaties being negotiated by the United States in order to eliminate the difficulties faced by owners of vehicles that have been stolen and transported across international borders. When it enters into force, it will be an effective tool to facilitate the return of U.S. vehicles that have

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been stolen and taken to Belize. The Treaty establishes procedures for the recovery and return of vehicles that are registered, titled, or otherwise documented in the territory of one Party, stolen in the territory of that Party or from one of its nationals, and found in the territory of the other Party.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Treaty, with Annexes and Protocol, and give its advice and consent to ratification.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
June 23, 1998.

Remarks at a Dinner for Texas Gubernatorial Candidate Garry Mauro June 23, 1998

Thank you. Thank you, Garry, and thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for the warm welcome, and even more, thank you for being here for Garry Mauro.

I don't know what to make of that eulogy you gave me at the end of those remarks. [Laughter] It reminds me, the other day I was in Cleveland—this is a true story—I was in Cleveland the other day, and I went with Congressman Lou Stokes who is retiring after a long and distinguished, wonderful career in Congress on a motorcade through his Congressional District in inner city Cleveland, and we went by all these little schools, and then finally we stopped at a grade school.

And I was there because a wonderful community program called City Year which may have a chapter in Texas, I think they do, and it has a couple thousand kids around the country, they're all part of our AmeriCorp program, our national service program; they were having their national convention in Cleveland.

But I went to this elementary school where some of our young volunteers are working with the kids in the inner city. So I gave them a little talk, you know, and then I went down the line, and I was shaking hands with all the teachers and the parents and as many children as I could possibly shake hands with. And I got to the very end of the line, and there was a little kid standing there that barely came above my knees. He was probably 6, I guess he could have been 7, but I don't think so. He looked up at me, and normally when I see kids like that they say, "I've seen you on television," and I say "Thank goodness." [Laughter] This kid said, "Are you the real President?" I said, "Yes,

I am." He said, "And you're not dead yet?" [Laughter]

Then I realized that he thought Presidents were—you know, he had studied George Washington and Abraham Lincoln—he thought a part of the job description was you couldn't be living anymore. [Laughter] And some days I wonder whether he's right or not. [Laughter] But at least I died with honors from Garry's introduction.

Let me say to all of you I think you're doing a good thing here. And I think it's even more important that you're doing it because you know you have a long way to go. But I would like to tell you a story or two. In 1991 when I started running for President, only my wife and my mother thought I could win. My daughter thought I had a chance. [Laughter]

When I entered the New Hampshire primary I was fifth among the Democrats starting out, and the incumbent President was at a 75 percent approval rating. When I won the nomination of my party on June 2, 1992, with the victories in California, New Jersey, and Ohio, I was running third in the public opinion polls; 6 weeks later I was first in the public opinion polls—6 weeks later.

Go back a few years; I met Garry Mauro over 25 years ago when we worked in 1972 together. Two years later I ran for Congress. I ran against a Member of Congress who had 99 percent name recognition and an 85 percent approval rating in 1974. And I was zero, zero. On Labor Day I was behind 59 to 23, on Labor Day, not June the 28th, on September the whatever it was that year. And I got 48½ percent of the vote. If I had had another week to campaign, I could have won. I say that to make