

Bush Statement on Signing of Departments of Commerce,
Justice, State, Judiciary H.R. 2500 into law

"Today I have signed into law H.R. 2500, the "Departments of Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002."

...

Section 630 prohibits the use of appropriated funds for cooperation with, or assistance or other support to, the International Criminal Court (ICC) or its Preparatory Commission. While section 630 clearly reflects that the Congress agrees with my Administration that it is not in the interests of the United States to become a party to the ICC treaty, I must note that this provision must be applied consistent with my constitutional authority in the area of foreign affairs, which, among other things, will enable me to take actions to protect U.S. nationals from the purported jurisdiction of the treaty.

In addition, several other provisions of the Act unconstitutionally constrain my authority regarding the conduct of diplomacy and my authority as Commander in Chief. I will apply these provisions consistent with my constitutional responsibilities."

GEORGE W. BUSH

THE WHITE HOUSE,
November 28, 2001.