



InfoWorld JavaScript promises cancelled

[Sign In](#) | [Register](#)



The proposed feature would have given developers more control over requests in programs, but Google pushed back

By **Paul Krill** | Follow

Editor at Large, InfoWorld DEC 22, 2016



In a twist of irony, a cancelable promises capability has been cancelled as a planned addition to JavaScript itself.

The proposal had been championed by Google's Dominic Denicola but had remained in an early stage of development, according to Mozilla. Denicola declined to comment on the proposal's withdrawal except to say it was a "difficult subject." In recent comments in GitHub repo, he said the proposal had met "significant opposition from within Google."

[Give yourself a technology career advantage with InfoWorld's Deep Dive technology reports and Computerworld's career trends reports. GET A 15% DISCOUNT through Jan.15, 2017: Use code 8TIISZ4Z.]

The feature would have given developers the ability to abort a promise, a Mozilla representative said. "A prominent use case is to be able to cancel possibly longstanding requests, such as fetch requests." Cancelable promises had been proposed to the ECMA TC-39 committee overseeing the standardization of JavaScript.

While Mozilla declined to speculate on why the proposal was retracted, the company hopes another effort is made in this vein. "What has been retracted is a particular proposed solution," Mozilla said. "We believe the idea of making promises cancelable, in particular making HTML fetch cancelable, is still very much desired. We anticipate there will be other proposals."

Promises in JavaScript provide for asynchronous connection-handling, for scheduling of script APIs and functions. Comments on a Hacker News thread referred to cancelable promises as having no obvious way to accomplish it and questioned whether it would foment complexity and compatibility issues. For the time being, cancelable promises has met the same fate as `object.observe`, a JavaScript feature for observation of objects that also was axed.

Paul Krill is an editor at large at InfoWorld, whose coverage focuses on application development.

➤ From CIO: 8 Free Online Courses to Grow Your Tech Skills

YOU MIGHT LIKE

Ads by Revcontent

Bollywood Secret: Burn Kgs in 15 Days with This 1 Odd Trick (Try Tonight)

SlimNow

Bangalore Guys Are Using This Crazy Method To Get 5 Shades Fairer In 14 Days

Fit Mom Daily

Fake? - 16 Pictures You Won't Believe Are Real

Viral IQ

Generate A High-Quality User Experience with Revcontent

Revcontent

Join Revcontent To Increase User Engagement and Reach

Revcontent

Google AMP Builds a Better User Experience on Mobile

Adotas

The new BYOD backlash hides an ulterior motive

Uninstall QuickTime for Windows now!

Doing business in Europe? Trump just screwed that up

Patch.com Chooses Revcontent for Superior Ad Quality and User Experience

