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REPORT CONCERNING EMIGRATION LAWS AND POLICIES OF ALBANIA

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

AN UPDATED REPORT CONCERNING THE EMIGRATION LAWS AND POLICIES OF ALBANIA, PURSUANT TO 19 U.S.C. 2432(b)

FEBRUARY 10, 2000.—Message and accompanying papers referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed

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OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 9, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on February 9, 2000 at 5:40 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits a report on Albanian compliance with U.S. and international standards in the area of emigration.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

MARTHA C. MORRISON, *Deputy Clerk.*

Attachment.

To the Congress of the United States:

I am submitting an updated report to the Congress concerning the emigration laws and policies of Albania. The report indicates continued Albanian compliance with U.S. and international standards in the area of emigration. In fact, Albania has imposed no emigration restrictions, including exit visa requirements, on its population since 1991.

On December 5, 1997, I determined and reported to the Congress that Albania was not in violation of paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of subsection 402(a) of the Trade Act of 1974 or paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of subsection 409(a) of that Act. That action allowed for the continuation of normal trade relations (NTR) status for Albania and certain other activities without the requirement of an annual waiver. This semiannual report is submitted as required by law pursuant to the determination of December 5, 1997.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 9, 2000.*

REPORT TO CONGRESS CONCERNING EMIGRATION LAWS AND POLICIES OF ALBANIA

This report is submitted pursuant to sections 402 and 409 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended ("the Act"), following Presidential Determination Number 98–7 of December 5, 1997, and the accompanying report to Congress, that Albania is not in violation of paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of subsections 402(a) and 409(a) of the Act.

All current information indicates that the emigration laws and practices of the Republic of Albania continue to satisfy the criteria set forth in subsections 402(a) and 409(a) of the Act with respect to all matters covered in those subsections.

The right to emigrate is enshrined in Albanian law and has been reaffirmed in numerous European human rights conventions to which Albania is a signatory. Albania has had no emigration restrictions, including exit visa requirements, since 1991. Albanians have exercised this right in great numbers (several hundred thousand emigrants) since the collapse of the communist regime in 1991. We know of no reports of Albanians being denied the right to emigrate.

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