

CONTINUATION OF WAIVER UNDER THE
TRADE ACT OF 1974 WITH RESPECT TO CHINA

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

NOTIFICATION OF HIS DETERMINATION THAT A CONTINUATION
OF A WAIVER CURRENTLY IN EFFECT FOR THE PEOPLE'S RE-
PUBLIC OF CHINA WILL SUBSTANTIALLY PROMOTE THE OBJEC-
TIVES OF SECTION 402, OF THE TRADE ACT OF 1974, PURSUANT
TO 19 U.S.C. 2432 (c) AND (d)



JUNE 6, 2000.—Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and
ordered to be printed

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THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, June 2, 2000.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I hereby transmit a report including my reasons for determining that continuation of the waiver currently in effect for the People's Republic of China under subsection 402(d)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, (the "Act") will substantially promote the objectives of section 402 of the Act.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

REPORT TO THE CONGRESS CONCERNING THE EXTENSION OF WAIVER
AUTHORITY FOR THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Pursuant to subsection 402(d)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended ("the Act"), I have recommended further extension of the waiver authority granted by subsection 402(c) of the Act for twelve months. I have determined that such extension will substantially promote the objectives of section 402 of the Act, and that continuation of the waiver currently applicable to the People's Republic of China will also substantially promote the objectives of section 402 of the Act. My determination is attached and incorporated herein.

Freedom of Emigration Determination

China's relatively free emigration policies have continued during the past twelve months. In FY 1999, 26,901 U.S. immigrant visas were issued to Chinese nationals abroad, down slightly from FY 1998. Visas were available to Chinese immigrants up to the numerical limitation under U.S. law. the figure of 26,901 includes only immigrant visas issued at U.S. consular offices abroad, and does include adjustments of status at INS offices in the United States.

In FY 1999, 193,954 U.S. visas were issued worldwide to tourists and business visitors from China, a two percent decrease from the FY 1998 total of 197,332. The number of nonimmigrant combination business/tourist visas issued to Chinese nationals increased by 180 percent in FY 1999 (from 63,385 to 177,171), while the number of business visas decreased by 96 percent (from 99,936 to 3,889) and the number of tourist visas decreased by 62 percent (from 34,011 to 12,894). These figures represent the switch to the combined business/tourist visa.

Also in FY 1999, 31,327 student visas (including exchange visitor visas) were issued, a 12 percent increase from the FY 1998 total of 27,909.

The volume of visas issued in these categories generally reflects the overall one percent increase in nonimmigrant visa applications (including issuances and refusals) at U.S. consular offices in China in FY 1999 from FY 1998 levels (337,511 to 341,006).

The principal constraint on increased emigration is the capacity and willingness of other nations to absorb Chinese immigrants rather than Chinese policy. After considering all the relevant information, I have concluded that continuing the waiver will preserve the gains on freedom of emigration and encourage further progress.

FY 1999 figures are preliminary and subject to minor adjustment.

[Presidential Determination No. 2000-23]

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, June 2, 2000.

Memorandum for the Secretary of State.

Subject: Determination Under Subsection 402(d)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974, as Amended: Continuation of Waiver Authority for the People's Republic of China.

Pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, Public Law 93-618, 88 Stat. 1978 (the "Act"), 19 U.S.C. 2432(d)(1), that the further extension of the waiver authority granted by section 402(c) of the Act will substantially promote the objectives of section 402 of the Act. I further determine that continuation of the waiver applicable to the People's Republic of China will substantially promote the objectives of section 402 of the Act.

You are authorized and directed to publish this determination in the *Federal Register*.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

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