In southern Serbia, ethnic Albania extremists have used the Ground Safety Zone (GSZ), originally intended as a buffer zone between KFOR and FRY/Government of Serbia (FRY/GoS) forces, as a safe haven for staging attacks against FRY/GoS police and soldiers. Members of ethnic Albanian armed extremist groups in southern Serbia have, on several occasions, attacked joint U.S.-Russian KFOR patrols in Kosovo. NATO has negotiated the return of FRY/GoS forces to the GSZ, and facilitated negotiations between Belgrade authorities and ethnic Albania insurgents and political leaders from southern Serbia. A small number of the extremist leaders have since threatened to seek vengeance on KFOR, including U.S. KFOR.

Individuals and groups engaged in the activities described above have boasted falsely of having U.S. support, a claim that is believed by many in the region. They also have aggressively solicited funds from United States persons. These fund-raising efforts serve to fuel extremist violence and obstructionist activity in the region and are inimical to U.S. interests. Consequently, the Executive order I have issued is necessary to restrict any further financial or other support by United States persons for the persons designated in or pursuant to the order. The actions we are taking will demonstrate to all the peoples of the region and to the wider international community that the Government of the United States strongly opposes the recent extremist violence and obstructionist activity in Macedonia and southern Serbia and elsewhere in the Western Balkans. The concrete steps we are undertaking to block access by these groups and individuals to financial and material support will assist in restoring peace and stability in the region. They will help protect U.S. military forces and Government officials working towards that end.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a record vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 8 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken tomorrow.

CHILD PASSENGER PROTECTION EDUCATION GRANTS EXTENSION

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I, in accordance with section 203(b)(2) of IEEPA, am writing to extend the authority for an additional 2 years, fiscal years 2000 and 2001, making the program consistent with the reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TETA–21) and extending the program through fiscal year 2003.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) to yield 5 minutes.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include therein extraneous materials on H.R. 691 that may be relevant.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Idaho?

There was no objection.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my support for the bill of the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. LARSEN), and I ask that the House vote to suspend the rules on which a record vote is ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 8 of rule XX, to consider H.R. 691. This noncontroversial legislation will extend the Child Passenger Protection Education Grant Program for an additional 2 years, fiscal years 2000 and 2001.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) to yield 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include therein extraneous materials on H.R. 691 that may be relevant.

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