

§ 5353. Fair trade in financial services

(a) Discussions

When advantageous the President or his designee shall conduct discussions with the governments of countries that are major financial centers, aimed at:

- (1) ensuring that United States banking organizations and securities companies have access to foreign markets and receive national treatment in those markets;
- (2) reducing or eliminating barriers to, and other distortions of, international trade in financial services;
- (3) achieving reasonable comparability in the types of financial services permissible for financial service companies; and
- (4) developing uniform supervisory standards for banking organizations and securities companies, including uniform capital standards.

(b) Consultation before discussions

Before entering into those discussions, the President or his designee shall consult with the committees of jurisdiction in the Senate and the House of Representatives.

(c) Recommendations

After completing those discussions and after consultation with the committees of jurisdiction, the President shall transmit to the Congress any recommendations that have emerged from those discussions. Any recommendations for changes in United States financial laws or practices shall be accompanied by a description of the changes in foreign financial laws or practices that would accompany action by the Congress, and by an explanation of the benefits that would accrue to the United States from adoption of the recommendations.

(d) Construction of section

Nothing in this section may be construed as prior approval of any legislation which may be necessary to implement any recommendations resulting from discussions under this section.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title III, §3603, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1387.)

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of President under this section delegated to Secretary of the Treasury by section 1 of Ex. Ord. No. 12781, Nov. 20, 1991, 56 F.R. 59203, set out as a note under section 301 of Title 3, The President.

§ 5354. Banks loan loss reserves

The Federal Reserve Board shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on the issues raised by including loan loss reserves as part of banks' primary capital for regulatory purposes by March 31, 1989. Such report shall include a review of the treatment of loan loss reserves and the composition of primary capital of banks in other major industrialized countries, and shall include an analysis as to whether loan loss reserves should continue to be counted as primary capital for regulatory purposes.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title III, §3604, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1388.)

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs of House of Representatives treated as referring to Committee on Banking and Financial Services of House of Representatives by section 1(a) of Pub. L. 104-14, set out as a note preceding section 21 of Title 2, The Congress. Committee on Banking and Financial Services of House of Representatives abolished and replaced by Committee on Financial Services of House of Representatives, and jurisdiction over matters relating to securities and exchanges and insurance generally transferred from Committee on Energy and Commerce of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Seventh Congress, Jan. 3, 2001.

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§ 5401. Support for East European Democracy (SEED) Program

(a) SEED Program

The United States shall implement, beginning in fiscal year 1990, a concerted Program of Support for East European Democracy (which may also be referred to as the "SEED Program"). The SEED Program shall be comprised of diverse undertakings designed to provide cost-effective assistance to those countries of Eastern Europe that have taken substantive steps toward institutionalizing political democracy and economic pluralism.

(b) Objectives of SEED assistance

The President should ensure that the assistance provided to East European countries pursuant to this chapter is designed—

- (1) to contribute to the development of democratic institutions and political pluralism characterized by—
 - (A) the establishment of fully democratic and representative political systems based on free and fair elections,
 - (B) effective recognition of fundamental liberties and individual freedoms, including freedom of speech, religion, and association,
 - (C) termination of all laws and regulations which impede the operation of a free press and the formation of political parties,
 - (D) creation of an independent judiciary, and
 - (E) establishment of non-partisan military, security, and police forces;
- (2) to promote the development of a free market economic system characterized by—
 - (A) privatization of economic entities,
 - (B) establishment of full rights to acquire and hold private property, including land and the benefits of contractual relations,
 - (C) simplification of regulatory controls regarding the establishment and operation of businesses,
 - (D) dismantlement of all wage and price controls,
 - (E) removal of trade restrictions, including on both imports and exports,
 - (F) liberalization of investment and capital, including the repatriation of profits by foreign investors;
 - (G) tax policies which provide incentives for economic activity and investment,
 - (H) establishment of rights to own and operate private banks and other financial service firms, as well as unrestricted access to private sources of credit, and

- (I) access to a market for stocks, bonds, and other instruments through which individuals may invest in the private sector; and
- (3) not to contribute any substantial benefit—

(A) to Communist or other political parties or organizations which are not committed to respect for the democratic process, or

(B) to the defense or security forces of any member country of the Warsaw Pact.

(c) SEED Actions

Assistance and other activities under the SEED Program (which may be referred to as "SEED Actions") shall include activities such as the following:

(1) Leadership in the World Bank and International Monetary Fund

United States leadership in supporting—

(A) loans by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and its affiliated institutions in the World Bank group that are designed to modernize industry, agriculture, and infrastructure, and

(B) International Monetary Fund programs designed to stimulate sound economic growth.

(2) Currency stabilization loans

United States leadership in supporting multilateral agreement to provide government-to-government loans for currency stabilization where such loans can reduce inflation and thereby foster conditions necessary for the effective implementation of economic reforms.

(3) Debt reduction and rescheduling

Participation in multilateral activities aimed at reducing and rescheduling a country's international debt, when reduction and deferral of debt payments can assist the process of political and economic transition.

(4) Agricultural assistance

Assistance through the grant and concessional sale of food and other agricultural commodities and products when such assistance can ease critical shortages but not inhibit agricultural production and marketing in the recipient country.

(5) Enterprise Funds

Grants to support private, nonprofit "Enterprise Funds", designated by the President pursuant to law and governed by a Board of Directors, which undertake loans, grants, equity investments, feasibility studies, technical assistance, training, and other forms of assistance to private enterprise activities in the Eastern European country for which the Enterprise Fund so is designated.

(6) Labor market-oriented technical assistance

Technical assistance programs directed at promoting labor market reforms and facilitating economic adjustment.

(7) Technical training

Programs to provide technical skills to assist in the development of a market economy.

(8) Peace Corps

Establishment of Peace Corps programs.