

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:45 a.m. in Room 450 of the Old Executive Office Building. H.R. 1627, approved August 3, was assigned Public Law No. 104-170.

### **Statement on Signing the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996**

*August 3, 1996*

Today I am pleased to sign into law H.R. 1627, the "Food Quality Protection Act of 1996," which brings much needed reform to laws governing pesticides and food safety.

Americans have every right to expect that the world's most bountiful food supply will also be the world's safest. Early in my Administration I set out to strengthen our pesticide and food safety laws. This Act achieves that goal with commonsense regulatory reform based on the best available science.

The Act will replace conflicting and outdated pesticide residue standards with a single, rigorous health-based standard for all food. All pesticides will be required to meet the new standard. Incentives are also provided for swift approval of safe, new pesticide alternatives for farmers.

Most importantly, H.R. 1627 contains special new provisions to protect America's infants and children from pesticide risks. These protections will guarantee that every family in America has the safest food possible on their dinner table.

This Act demonstrates how the Congress and the Administration can work together to help both farmers and consumers, and I am pleased to sign it into law.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
August 3, 1996.

NOTE: H.R. 1627, approved August 3, was assigned Public Law No. 104-170.

### **Statement on Signing the National Gambling Impact Study Commission Act**

*August 3, 1996*

Today I have signed into law H.R. 497, the "National Gambling Impact Study Com-

mission Act." This legislation will establish a Commission to conduct a comprehensive study of the social and economic impacts of gambling in the United States.

The Commission will help draw attention to the growth of the gambling industry and its consequences. Too often, public officials view gambling as a quick and easy way to raise revenues, without focusing on gambling's hidden social, economic, and political costs. The Commission will report on all of the effects of gambling to the President and the Congress.

The Commission's study will address various types of betting, whether conducted in a casino, on a riverboat, on the Internet, on an Indian reservation, or anywhere else in the United States. In addition, the study will address gambling sponsored by governmental, commercial, philanthropic, or charitable entities. Such a balanced study will be invaluable to public officials as they make policy decisions concerning this important issue.

The legislation grants the Commission limited subpoena authority to get the information it needs to carry out its purpose, while protecting the privacy of individuals and businesses. The bill also authorizes the Commission to request information from any Federal agency, which may use its discretion and judgment in withholding privileged and sensitive information.

My Administration supported the establishment of this Commission, and I am pleased to sign this bill into law.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
August 3, 1996.

NOTE: H.R. 497, approved August 3, was assigned Public Law No. 104-169.

### **Statement on Signing Legislation on Most-Favored-Nation Status for Romania**

*August 3, 1996*

Today I am pleased to sign into law H.R. 3161, authorizing the termination of the application of title IV of the Trade Act of 1974 to Romania. Under the provisions of this bill,