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We appreciate your courage. You've endured, and many of you are still undergoing, one of life's toughest and most terrifying struggles. In your suffering you have demonstrated dignity and determination, grit and grace, courage and character. And through your fight against cancer you have become witnesses to the power of hope.

Lisa Rodriguez has endured that struggle and cherishes that hope. Lisa is here with us today. I had the honor of meeting her this morning. She says her cancer diagnosis taught her how important time was and how important finding a cure is. Since then, she's been focused on beating cancer and working to make sure others have the support and information they need to fight and to win.

Like Lisa, most of you did not fight your battle alone. You've had the support of your families. They've suffered with you; they have remained faithful in their love for you; and we want to thank them, as well.

Breast cancer, as you know, is the second most common type of cancer amongst women in the United States. Every 3 minutes brings a new case. Every 13 minutes brings another death from breast cancer. Yet, we also live in a profoundly hopeful time. Fewer women are dying of breast cancer each year. Awareness about breast cancer has never been greater. We've made progress in early detection and screening. We're seeing better and more effective treatment. New drugs offer exciting possibilities, and we are gathering a wealth of information about how cancer works at its most basic molecular level.

We have just received the 2001 cancer statistics from the Public Health Service. It shows that breast cancer death rates declined an average of 3.4 percent between 1995 and 1998. That's more than double the rate of decline—[*applause*].

There are still many high medical hurdles that need to be cleared, and we have enough experience with cancer to know that we'll suffer some disappointments and setbacks along the way. But for the first time in human history, we can say with some measure of confidence that the war on cancer is winnable.

With this hope comes responsibility. Now is the time to bolster our efforts. We'll increase funding at the National Institutes of Health by $2.8 billion in 2002.

We must continue to raise awareness about the importance of early detection and increased access to screening services. We need to close the treatment gap between research discoveries and treatment options, so that cancer victims have access to the latest technology.

I want to thank Secretary Tommy Thompson for his efforts to encourage States to provide Medicaid coverage to low income women diagnosed with breast cancer. I'm committed to passing a strong Patients' Bill of Rights this year to provide women with needed access to life-saving clinical trials and medical specialists.

I hope, I believe, and I pray that we're on the verge of great victories against cancer. You've seen the great victories already, in the lives of many people in this room.

Every survivor of cancer is a defeat for cancer and a triumph for faith and courage and hope. We will not rest until our victory against breast cancer is complete.

I want to thank you all for your good work, your courage, and have a great race.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:12 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Ambassador-designee to Hungary Nancy Goodman Brinker, founding chair, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation; and country/western singer Jo Dee Messina.

Statement on Renewing Normal Trade Relations Status for China

June 1, 2001

Earlier today I informed Congress of my decision to extend normal trade relations status for China, as every President has done since 1980. This decision advances the economic and security interests of the American people, and I urge Congress to support it.

Normal trade relations—a status which virtually every other country in the world receives from the United States—is in the interests of American workers, some 400,000 of whom are employed in or benefit directly from America's trade with China.

Trade is in the interests of American farmers, who last year exported more than $3 billion to China and Hong Kong and who this year should export even more as China removes bans on key American products like citrus, wheat, and meat.

Trade is in the interests of American business, nearly 80 percent of which are small or medium sized, which last year increased their overall exports to China by 24 percent, making China our 11th largest export market.

Trade is in the interests of American consumers, especially those who live from paycheck to paycheck and depend on inexpensive goods from China to enhance their quality of life.

Fair trade is essential not only to improving living standards for Americans but also for a strong and productive relationship with China. Normal trade relations status is important if we are to promote American values of transparency and accountability and ensure that the Chinese Government adheres to the rule of law in its dealings with its own people as well as with the international community.

Renewal of normal trade relations also sends a clear but simple message to the people of China: The United States is committed to helping China become part of the new international trading system so that the Chinese people can enjoy the better life that comes from economic choice and freedom.

The United States has a huge stake in the emergence of an economically open, politically stable, and secure China. Recent events have shown not only that we need to speak frankly and directly about our differences but that we also need to maintain dialog and cooperate with one another on those areas where we have common interests. An important area where the interests of our two countries converge is in maintaining a healthy trading relationship. Renewing normal trade relations status for China will only make those ties stronger.

Memorandum on Renewing Normal Trade Relations Status for China

June 1, 2001

Presidential Determination No. 2001–16

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 (hereinafter the "Act"), I determine, pursuant to section 402(d)(1) of the Act, 19 U.S.C. 2432(d)(1), that the further extension of the waiver authority granted by section 402 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*.

George W. Bush

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on Renewing Normal Trade Relations Status for China

June 1, 2001

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

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 (the "Act"), as amended, will substantially promote the objectives of section 402 of the Act.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush