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The details of this proposal are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

Remarks on Signing the Tom Lantos Block Burmese JADE (Junta's Anti-Democratic Efforts) Act of 2008 and the Renewal of Import Restrictions Contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003

July 29, 2008

Laura and I are welcome—are pleased to welcome members of the Lantos family. Mrs. Lantos, thanks for joining us; and Members of Congress who care deeply about democracy in Burma. I'm going to sign a piece of legislation and a joint resolution that will continue some sanctions, impose new sanctions, and extend import restrictions. On the Burmese regime, our message is: The United States believes in democracy and freedom.

Not only will I sign the joint resolution, I'm also looking forward to signing the Tom Lantos Block Burmese JADE Act of 2008.

Thank you all for joining us. Thank you for your caring.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:30 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Annette Lantos, widow of Rep. Thomas P. Lantos, who passed away on February 11, 2008. H.R. 3890, approved July 29, was assigned Public Law No. 110–286; H.J. Res. 93, also approved July 29, was assigned Public Law No. 110–287.

Remarks at Lincoln Electric Company in Euclid, Ohio

July 29, 2008

Thank you all. George D.—[*laughter*]—introduces George W.—[*laughter*]—at Lincoln Welding. Thanks. I'm proud to be here with "the welding experts."

I want to talk a little bit about our economy and the importance of energy, but before I do so I do want to thank you all for your hospitality. I want to thank the workers here for their hard work. This is a productive site. This is a site that proves with good investment and good education and a company that treats its workers well, that America can compete with anybody, anytime, anywhere. That's what this country—[*applause*].

I appreciate Mayor Cervenik for being here from Euclid. Thanks for coming, Mr. Mayor; I appreciate you coming. I oftentimes say you have a tougher job than I do; you have to fill the potholes. [*Laughter*] But I appreciate you coming.

Two Members of the United States Congress, Steve LaTourette and Pat Tiberi, right here from the State of Ohio have joined us. Thank you all for coming; proud you're here.

Laura sends her best—mother of the bride and a great First Lady. I'm sorry John is not with us; he is in Colombia. Isn't that interesting? He's in Colombia trying to make sure that Lincoln Welding can sell more products down there. One of the issues that in a time of economic uncertainty—and these are uncertain times, no question about it. They're uncertain because you're paying high prices at the gas pump. They're uncertain because you're reading the newspapers about the housing issue. They're uncertain times.

And during uncertain times, we ought to be playing to our strengths, and implementing good commonsense policy. Well, one of our strengths is right here in this company. You're good at making a product that people want. People want it here in the United States of America, and when people are introduced to it around the world, they want it as well.

So John is down there trying to get new business. The problem is that our Government policy relative to a country like Colombia is backwards. I don't know if you know this or not, but most of the goods produced in Colombia come to our country duty free. The United States Congress, as a result of what is called the Andean Trade Preference Act, has passed law that said they can sell into our markets, which frankly is good for our consumers. The more product you get to choose from, the better off you are. On the other hand, products going into Colombia from the United States face a duty, a tariff, a tax. In other words, the products made in the United States going into that market