

a chance to work together to change our Nation's culture, to usher in a period of personal responsibility, to say, loud and clear, to citizens who need help, "Somebody loves you."

You see, Government can spend money, and we will. Our budgets reflect the compassion of America. But compassion isn't measured in dollars and cents. Compassion is measured in acts of kindness, in decency. One of the most important initiatives we're working on is what I call a Faith-Based and Community Initiative. It says, in order to make sure people aren't left behind, not only do children need to be educated, but our Nation must rally mentors to say to children whose parents may be in prison, "I care for you. I want to provide you with hope."

Or that we've got to understand—I'll never forget going to Colfax, Iowa, to understand that sometimes in order to get a person off alcohol or drugs, the most effective way is to change the person's heart.

Government can't cause people to love one another. But what Government and leaders can do is gather up the great compassion of America, encourage faith-based programs to flourish, welcome community-based programs in neighborhoods, all aimed at making sure no citizen in this land is left behind.

And I believe we're on our way. I believe we're on our way to a much better America. We're great. We can be even greater. And it begins by understanding where the strength of this country is. The strength of this country is in the hearts and souls of loving, decent, honorable citizens.

My job is to call upon the best, and it's my honor to do so. It also starts with understanding the awesome responsibilities of the collective offices we hold. I'll never forget that I hold the highest office of the land and, with it, comes an awesome responsibility, and I accept it gladly, and I'm not going to let you down.

Thanks for coming. Thanks for having me back. I'm honored to have your hospitality. God bless you all and God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:20 a.m. at the Barrett Farm. In his remarks, he referred to his mother, Barbara Bush; farm co-owners Tom and Judy Barrett; Barbara Grassley, wife of Senator Charles E. Grassley; Kay King, president and

founder, Travel World; and Speaker Brent Siegrist, Iowa General Assembly.

## **Statement on the Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement**

*June 8, 2001*

Free trade and open markets are at the foundation of my administration's efforts to promote prosperity and opportunity around the world. Our free trade agenda is designed to engage our trading partners at the global, regional, and bilateral level and to expand economic integration and political cooperation. The history of the previous century teaches us that trade is a powerful tool for improving and reforming economies and opening up entire societies.

Today I am sending to the Congress the Vietnam bilateral trade agreement, an important part of my administration's trade agenda. This agreement will increase opportunities for U.S. firms by requiring Vietnam to dismantle a wide range of trade barriers, open its services markets, and provide comprehensive protection of intellectual property rights. Expanding ties between the United States and Vietnam will continue the historic process of normalizing our relations—a process that began during the first Bush administration and advanced in the Clinton administration with the negotiation of this agreement.

This agreement enjoys broad bipartisan support in the Congress, including from many Members who are Vietnam veterans. Enactment of the agreement will provide a solid bipartisan foundation for action on other trade issues.

I recently extended the Jackson-Vanik waiver for Vietnam for one year, based on my belief that Vietnam is making progress on liberalizing its emigration statutes. My administration will continue to press for improvements in Vietnam's overall record on human rights and religious freedom.

At the dawn of a new millennium, the United States stands ready to shoulder its leadership role throughout the world. Engaging other nations in trade is a vital part of U.S. leadership, and it is a key element of promoting economic growth at home and

abroad. I urge the Congress to approve this agreement.

**Proclamation 7449—To Implement the Agreement Between the United States of America and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on Trade Relations**

June 8, 2001

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

1. Pursuant to the authority vested in the President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, and acting through duly empowered representatives, the United States entered into negotiations with representatives of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (“Vietnam”) to conclude an agreement on trade relations between the United States and Vietnam.

2. These negotiations were conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2431 *et seq.*) (the “Trade Act”).

3. As a result of these negotiations, an “Agreement Between the United States of America and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on Trade Relations” (the “Agreement”), including annexes and an exchange of letters which form an integral part of the Agreement, the foregoing in English and Vietnamese, was signed on July 13, 2000, by duly empowered representatives of the two Governments, and is set forth as an annex to this proclamation.

4. The Agreement conforms to the requirements relating to bilateral commercial agreements set forth in section 405(b) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2435(b)).

5. Chapter VII, Article 8:1 of the Agreement provides that the Agreement shall enter into force on the date of exchange of written notices of acceptance by the two Governments.

6. Section 405(c) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2435(c)) provides that a bilateral commercial agreement providing nondiscriminatory treatment to the products of a country denied such treatment prior to the date

of enactment of the Trade Act, and a proclamation implementing such agreement, shall take effect only if a joint resolution described in section 151(b)(3) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2191(b)(3)) that approves of the Agreement is enacted into law.

7. Section 604 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2483) authorizes the President to embody in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) the substance of the provisions of that Act, of other acts affecting import treatment, and actions taken thereunder.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, acting under authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including, but not limited to, sections 404, 405, and 604 of the Trade Act, do proclaim that:

- (1) This proclamation shall become effective, the Agreement shall enter into force, and nondiscriminatory treatment shall be extended to the products of Vietnam, in accordance with the terms of the Agreement, and after Congress approves the Agreement by joint resolution, on the date of exchange of written notices of acceptance in accordance with Chapter VII, Article 8:1 of the Agreement. The United States Trade Representative shall publish notice of the effective date in the *Federal Register*.
- (2) Effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the date provided in paragraph (1) of this proclamation, general note 3(b) to the HTS, enumerating those countries whose products are subject to duty at rates set forth in Rates of Duty Column 2 of the tariff schedule, is modified by striking out “Socialist Republic of Vietnam.”

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

**George W. Bush**