

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-ninth.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., December 23, 2004]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on December 27.

**Executive Order 13367—United States-Mexico Border Health Commission**

*December 21, 2004*

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 1 of the International Organizations Immunities Act (22 U.S.C. 288) (the “Act”), and having found that the United States participates in the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission (USMBHC) pursuant to the United-States Mexico Border Health Commission Act, Public Law 103–400 (22 U.S.C. 290n *et seq.*), I hereby designate the USMBHC as a public international organization for purposes of the International Organizations Immunities Act. I hereby extend to members and employees of the Mexican Section of the USMBHC the same privileges, exemptions, and immunities as are accorded under similar circumstances to officers and employees, respectively, of foreign governments with regard to the laws regulating entry into and departure from the United States as provided for in section 7(a) of the Act (22 U.S.C. 288d(a)). No other privileges, exemptions, or immunities of the Act are extended under this order.

This designation is not intended to abridge in any respect privileges, exemptions, or immunities that the USMBHC otherwise may have acquired or may acquire by law.

**George W. Bush**

The White House,  
December 21, 2004.

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**Memorandum on Provision of Aviation Insurance Coverage for Commercial Air Carrier Service in Domestic and International Operations**

*December 21, 2004*

Presidential Determination No. 2005–15

*Memorandum for the Secretary of Transportation*

*Subject:* Provision of Aviation Insurance Coverage for Commercial Air Carrier Service in Domestic and International Operations

By the authority vested in me by 49 U.S.C. 44302, *et seq.*, I hereby:

1. determine that continuation of U.S.-flag commercial air service is necessary in the interest of air commerce, national security, and the foreign policy of the United States.

2. approve provision by the Secretary of Transportation of insurance or reinsurance to U.S.-flag air carriers against loss or damage arising out of any risk from the operation of an aircraft in the manner and to the extent provided in Chapter 443 of 49 U.S.C.:

- (a) until August 31, 2005;
- (b) after August 31, 2005, but no later than December 31, 2005, when he determines that such insurance or reinsurance cannot be obtained on reasonable terms and conditions from any company authorized to conduct an insurance business in a State of the United States; and

3. delegate to the Secretary of Transportation the authority, vested in me by 49 U.S.C. 44306(c), to extend this determination for additional periods beyond August 31, 2005, but no later than December 31, 2005, when he finds that the continued operation of aircraft to be insured or reinsured is necessary in the interest of air commerce or the national security, or to carry out the foreign policy of the United States Government.

You are directed to bring this determination immediately to the attention of all air carriers within the meaning of 49 U.S.C. 40102(2), and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

**George W. Bush**

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NOTE: This memorandum was published in the *Federal Register* on December 27.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders  
Transmitting a Report on  
Implementation of Debt Reduction  
Authority**

*December 21, 2004*

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

Consistent with section 1321 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107–228), I transmit herewith a report prepared by my Administration on implementation of the debt reduction authority conferred by Title XIII, Subtitle B of Public Law 107–228.

Sincerely,

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate.

**Statement on Signing the  
Intelligence Authorization Act for  
Fiscal Year 2005**

*December 23, 2004*

Today, I have signed into law H.R. 4548, the “Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005.” The Act authorizes appropriations to fund United States intelligence activities, including activities essential to success in the war on terror.

The executive branch shall construe provisions in the Act, including sections 105, 107, and 305, that mandate submission of information to the Congress, in a manner consistent with the President’s constitutional authority to supervise the unitary executive branch and to withhold information that

could impair foreign relations, national security, the deliberative processes of the Executive, or the performance of the Executive’s constitutional duties.

Section 502 of the Act purports to place restrictions on use of the U.S. Armed Forces and other personnel in certain operations. The executive branch shall construe the restrictions in that section as advisory in nature, so that the provisions are consistent with the President’s constitutional authority as Commander in Chief, including for the conduct of intelligence operations, and to supervise the unitary executive branch.

To the extent that provisions of the Act, such as sections 614 and 615, purport to require or regulate submission by executive branch officials of legislative recommendations to the Congress, the executive branch shall construe such provisions in a manner consistent with the President’s constitutional authority to supervise the unitary executive branch and to submit for congressional consideration such measures as the President judges necessary and expedient.

Section 105 of the Act incorporates by reference certain requirements set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the House-Senate committee of conference or in a classified annex. The executive branch continues to discourage the practice of enacting secret laws and encourages instead appropriate non-binding uses of classified schedules of authorizations, classified annexes to committee reports, and joint statements of managers that accompany the final legislation.

**George W. Bush**

The White House,  
December 23, 2004.

NOTE: At the time of publication, H.R. 4548, approved December 23, had not been received by the Office of the Federal Register for assignment of a Public Law number. An original was not available for verification of the content of this statement.