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Statement on Signing the Hong Kong Autonomy Act

July 14, 2020

Today, I have signed into law H.R. 7440, the "Hong Kong Autonomy Act" (the "Act"). The Act addresses China's failure to meet certain obligations under the Sino-British Joint Declaration. I note, however, that the requirements for a waiver or termination of sanctions under section 8 of the Act could limit my discretion under Article II of the Constitution to conduct the Nation's foreign affairs. In such circumstances, my Administration will treat these limitations as advisory and non-binding. In addition, my Administration will treat the requirement in section 8 of the Act to report to the Congress regarding the advisability of terminating the Act and sanctions imposed thereto consistent with the President's authority under Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution to recommend to the Congress only such measures as the President shall judge necessary and expedient.

DONALD J. TRUMP

NOTE: H.R. 7440, approved July 14, was assigned Public Law No. 116–149. An original was not available for verification of the content of this statement.

Categories: Bill Signings and Vetoes : Hong Kong Autonomy Act, signing statement.

Subjects: China : Hong Kong, status; Legislation, enacted : Hong Kong Autonomy Act; Presidency, U.S. : Constitutional role and powers.

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