

schedules an appointment for the appeal and sends an appointment notice to the individual.

Individuals who appeal SSA's decision regarding eligibility or continuing eligibility for Medicare Part D Extra Help must complete Form SSA-1021. The respondent may mail the completed form to either the local field

office or to the Wilkes-Barre Direct Operations Center. The respondent may also complete the form with assistance from an SSA technician via an in-person interview at the Field Office or over the telephone. SSA technicians enter all claims into Medicare Application Processing System (MAPS), which automatically adjudicates claims based

on the data the technicians input. Respondents are Medicare beneficiaries, or proper applicants acting on behalf of a Medicare beneficiary, who do not agree with the outcome of an SSA Extra Help eligibility determination and want to file an appeal.

*Type of Request:* Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars)*	Average wait time in field office (minutes)**	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars)***
SSA-1021—(Paper version) .....	1,859	1	10	310	*\$29.76	.....	*** \$9,226
SSA-1021—(Internet version: MAPS) .....	5,291	1	10	882	*\$29.76	** 24	*** \$89,220
Totals .....	7,150	.....	.....	1,192	.....	.....	*** \$98,446

\* We based this figure on average U.S. worker's hourly wages; State and local government worker's salaries; and attorney representative payee wages as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data ([https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_stru.htm](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_stru.htm)).

\*\* We based this figure on the average FY 2023 wait times for field offices, based on SSA's current management information data.

\*\*\* This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.

Dated: December 26, 2023.

Naomi Sipple,

Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.

[FR Doc. 2023-28774 Filed 12-28-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191-02-P

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**

**Extension of Exclusions and Request for Comments: China's Acts, Policies and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property and Innovation**

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR).

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In prior notices, the U.S. Trade Representative modified the actions in the Section 301 investigation of China's acts, policies and practices related to technology transfer, intellectual property and innovation by excluding from additional duties certain products of China. In September 2023, the U.S. Trade Representative determined to extend 352 previously reinstated exclusions and 77 COVID-related exclusions through December 31, 2023. This notice announces the U.S. Trade Representative's determination to extend for five months, through May 31, 2024, these same exclusions. This notice also announces that USTR is opening of a docket for

public comments on whether to further extend particular exclusions.

**DATES:** The extension announced in this notice will extend the reinstated and COVID-related product exclusions through May 31, 2024.

*January 22, 2024:* The public docket on the web portal at <http://comments.USTR.gov> will open for interested persons to submit comments.

*February 21, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. ET:* To be assured of consideration, submit written comments on the public docket by this time.

**ADDRESSES:** You must submit all comments through the online portal: <https://comments.ustr.gov/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For general questions about this notice, contact Senior Associate General Counsel Philip Butler or Assistant General Counsel Edward Marcus at (202) 395-5725. For specific questions on customs classification or implementation of the product exclusions, contact [traderemedy@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:traderemedy@cbp.dhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**A. Background**

In the course of this investigation, the U.S. Trade Representative has imposed additional duties on products of China in four tranches. See 83 FR 28719 (June 20, 2018); 83 FR 40823 (August 16, 2018); 83 FR 47974 (September 21, 2018), as modified by 83 FR 49153 (September 28, 2018); and 84 FR 43304 (August 20, 2019), as modified by 84 FR 69447 (December 18, 2019) and 85 FR

3741 (January 22, 2020). For each tranche of additional duties, the U.S. Trade Representative established a process by which interested persons could request the exclusion of particular products subject to the action. With few exceptions, most of these exclusions expired in 2019 and 2020.

*Reinstated Exclusions*

On October 8, 2021, the U.S. Trade Representative invited the public to submit comments on whether to reinstate certain exclusions previously granted and extended. See 86 FR 56345 (October 8, 2021). On March 28, 2022, the U.S. Trade Representative determined to further modify the action by reinstating 352 expired exclusions. The reinstated exclusions applied as of October 12, 2021, and extended through December 31, 2022. See 87 FR 17380 (March 28, 2022) (March 28 notice). On December 21, 2022, the U.S. Trade Representative determined to extend the 352 reinstated exclusions through September 30, 2023. See 87 FR 78187 (December 21, 2022).

*COVID-Related Exclusions*

On March 25, 2020, USTR requested public comments on proposed modifications to exclude from additional duties certain medical-care products related to the U.S. response to COVID. 85 FR 16987 (March 25, 2020). On December 29, 2020, USTR announced 99 product exclusions for medical-care products and products related to the U.S. COVID response. 85 FR 85831 (December 20, 2020). For

background on previous extensions to exclusions related to the U.S. response to COVID, see prior notices including 86 FR 13785 (March 10, 2021), 86 FR 63438 (November 16, 2021), 87 FR 33871 (June 03, 2022), and 87 FR 73383 (November 29, 2022). On May 17, 2023, the U.S. Trade Representative determined to extend 77 of the COVID-related exclusions through September 30, 2023. See 88 FR 31580 (May 17, 2023) (May 17 notice).

#### Four-Year Review

In accordance with section 307(c)(3) of the Trade Act of 1974, on September 8, 2022, USTR announced that it would be conducting a review of the July 6, 2018 and August 23, 2018 actions, as modified. See 87 FR 26797 (May 5, 2022); 87 FR 55073 (September 8, 2022). In a notice published on October 17, 2022 (87 FR 62914), USTR announced that it was opening a docket on November 15, 2022 (USTR–2022–0014) for interested persons to submit comments with respect to any aspect of Section 307(c) considerations, including whether certain tariff headings (including those with a product specific exclusion) should remain covered by the actions.

To allow for consideration under the four-year review, on September 11, 2023, the U.S. Trade Representative determined to extend the 429 product specific exclusions still in effect (352 reinstated exclusions and 77 COVID-related exclusions) through December 31, 2023. See 88 FR 62423 (September 11, 2023) (September 11 notice).

#### B. Determination To Further Extend Exclusions

In light of public comments submitted in the four-year review, the U.S. Trade Representative has determined that it is appropriate to seek comments on whether to further extend any of the 429 product specific exclusions. Accordingly, to provide time for public comments and pursuant to sections 301(b), 301(c) and 307(a) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, the U.S. Trade Representative will extend the 429 exclusions for five months, until May 31, 2024. The U.S. Trade Representative's determination considers public comments previously submitted, advice of advisory committees, and advice of the interagency Section 301 Committee.

The extensions announced in the notice are available for any product that meets the description in the product exclusion. Further, the scope of each exclusion and modification is governed by the scope of the ten-digit Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the

United States (HTSUS) subheadings and product descriptions in annex A and annex B of the September 11, 2023 notice. U.S. Customs and Border Protection will issue instructions on entry guidance and implementation.

#### C. Request for Public Comment

On January 22, 2024, USTR will open a docket to receive public comments on whether to further extend particular exclusions beyond May 31, 2024. USTR will evaluate each exclusion on a case-by-case basis. The focus of the evaluation will be on the availability of products covered by the exclusion from sources outside of China, efforts undertaken to source products covered by the exclusion from the United States or third countries, why additional time is needed, and on what timeline, if any, the sourcing of products covered by exclusion is likely to shift outside of China. In addition, USTR will consider whether or not extending the exclusion will impact U.S. interests, including the overall impact of the exclusion on the goal of obtaining the elimination of China's acts, policies and practices covered in the Section 301 investigation.

#### D. Procedures To Comment on Particular Exclusions

The 352 reinstated exclusions can be found in the Annex of the March 28 notice. See also 87 FR 62485 (October 14, 2022); 87 FR 62486 (October 14, 2022); 88 FR 46362 (July 19, 2023) The 77 COVID-related exclusions can be found in the Annex of the May 17 notice. See also 88 FR 38120 (June 12, 2023). For ease of reference, USTR is also posting a list of the exclusions at <http://comments.USTR.gov>.

As noted above, the public docket on the portal will be open from January 22, 2024 to February 21 2024. Fields on the comment form marked with an asterisk (\*) are required fields. Fields with gray (BCI) notation are for business confidential information, which will not be publicly available. Fields with a green (Public) notation will be publicly available. Additionally, interested persons will be able to upload documents to supplement their comments. Commenters will be able to review the public version of their comments before they are posted.

Set forth below is a summary of the information to be entered on the exclusion comment form.

- Contact information, including the full legal name of the organization making the comment, whether the commenter is a third party (e.g., law firm, trade association or customs broker) submitting on behalf of an

organization or industry, and the name of the third party organization, if applicable.

- The exclusion covered by the comment.
- Whether you support or oppose extending the exclusion beyond May 31, 2024.
- The availability of products covered by the exclusion from sources outside of China.
- Efforts undertaken to source the product from the United States or third countries.
- Why additional time is needed to shift sourcing out of China and on what timeline, if any, you expect sourcing to shift outside of China.

#### E. Submission Instructions

To be assured of consideration, you must submit your comment when the public docket on the portal is open—from January 22, 2024 to February 21, 2024. Interested persons seeking to comment on more than one exclusion must submit a separate comment for each exclusion. By submitting a comment, the commenter certifies that the information provided is complete and correct to the best of their knowledge.

#### Annex A

The U.S. Trade Representative has determined to extend all exclusions previously extended under heading 9903.88.67 and U.S. notes 20(ttt)(i), 20(ttt)(ii), 20(ttt)(iii), and 20(ttt)(iv) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTSUS. See 88 FR 62423 (September 11, 2023). The extension is effective with respect to goods entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time on January 1, 2024, and before 11:59 p.m. eastern daylight time on May 31, 2024. Effective on January 1, 2024, the article description of heading 9903.88.67 of the HTSUS is modified by deleting “December 31, 2023,” and by inserting “May 31, 2024,” in lieu thereof.

#### Annex B

The U.S. Trade Representative has determined to extend all exclusions previously extended under heading 9903.88.68 and U.S. notes 20(uuu)(i), 20(uuu)(ii), 20(uuu)(iii), and 20(uuu)(iv) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTSUS. See 88 FR 62423 (September 11, 2023). The extension is effective with respect to goods entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time on January 1, 2024, and before 11:59 p.m. eastern daylight time on May 31, 2024.

Effective on January 1, 2024, the article description of heading 9903.88.68 of the HTSUS is modified by deleting “January 1, 2024,” and by inserting “June 1, 2024,” in lieu thereof.

**Megan Grimball,**

*Co-Chair of Section 301 Committee, Office of the United States Trade Representative.*

[FR Doc. 2023–28770 Filed 12–28–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3390–F4–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. DOT–OST–2023–0177]

### Transforming Transportation Advisory Committee; Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary (OST), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST) announces a public meeting of the Transforming Transportation Advisory Committee (TTAC) on Thursday, January 18, 2024. This notice announces the date, time, and location of the meeting, which will be virtually open to the public. The purpose of the TTAC is to provide information, advice, and recommendations to the Secretary on matters relating to transportation innovations.

**DATES:** This meeting will be held on Thursday, January 18, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. eastern time (ET). A link allowing for live viewing of the meeting will be posted to <https://www.transportation.gov/ttac> ahead of the meeting start time.

**ADDRESSES:** The TTAC members will be meeting in-person at USDOT Headquarters in Washington, DC. The public may attend the meeting virtually, with information available on the USDOT TTAC website ([https://](https://www.transportation.gov/ttac)

[www.transportation.gov/ttac](https://www.transportation.gov/ttac)) at least one week in advance of the meeting date.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Vincent White, Jr., Senior Advisor for Innovation and TTAC Designated Federal Officer, Office of the Secretary, [ttac@dot.gov](mailto:ttac@dot.gov), (202) 770–8887.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

The U.S. Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) established TTAC as a Federal Advisory Committee in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 5 U.S.C. app. 2) to provide information, advice, and recommendations to the Secretary on matters relating to transportation innovations. TTAC is tasked with advice and recommendations to the Secretary about needs, objectives, plans, and approaches for transportation innovations.

*Description of Duties:* TTAC will undertake only tasks assigned to it by the Secretary of Transportation or designee and provide direct, first-hand information, advice, and recommendations by meeting and exchanging ideas on the tasks assigned. In addition, TTAC will respond to ad-hoc informational requests from OST.

##### II. Agenda

At the meeting, the agenda will cover the following topics:

1. Call to Order, Official Statement of the Designated Federal Officer, Meeting Logistics
2. Opening Remarks
3. Overview of Committee Purpose
4. Committee Member Introductions
5. Committee Business
6. Break for Lunch
7. DOT Leadership Remarks
8. Committee Business
9. Recap of Meeting Progress and Review of Next Steps

##### III. Public Participation

The meeting will be open to the public via livestream. Members of the public who wish to observe the virtual meeting can access the livestream accessible on the following website: <https://www.transportation.gov/ttac>.

We are committed to providing equal access to this meeting for all participants. Sign language interpretation and live-captioning will be available during the livestream. If you need alternative formats or services because of a disability, such as interpretation or other ancillary aids, or if you require translation into a language other than English, please contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice no later than Thursday, January 11, 2024.

Members of the public may also submit written materials, questions, and comments to the Committee in advance to the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice no later than Thursday, January 11, 2024.

All advance submissions will be reviewed by the Designated Federal Officer. If approved, advance submissions shall be circulated to the TTAC members for review prior to the meeting. All advance submissions will become part of the official record of the meeting.

*Authority:* The Committee is a discretionary Committee under the authority of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. app. 2.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 22, 2023.

**Vincent Gerard White Jr.,**

*Senior Advisor for Innovation.*

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