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Statement Urging Senate Action on the Economic Security Package

December 7, 2001

Today's unemployment numbers are troubling, and they underscore that we must act to ensure America's economic security. The most important thing we can do for unemployed workers and those who are concerned about their jobs is to get the economy growing. The Senate has not acted on the economic security package I proposed in October, and since then, over three-quarters of a million Americans have lost their jobs. Today's important economic warning demonstrates that American workers have already waited too long, so I urge the Senate to take immediate action to help workers and our economy.

Message on the Observance of Hanukkah, 2001

December 7, 2001

Laura and I send our warmest greetings to all those celebrating Hanukkah, the festival of lights.

The celebration of Hanukkah is inspired by the story of the miracle of the lamp: how a ration of oil sufficient only for one day burned for eight. It is a holiday of hope that encourages trust in God's providence and God's purposes, even when we are threatened by darkness and destruction.

Hanukkah commemorates the reconsecration of the ancient temple in Jerusalem by the Maccabees and their followers, after it had been desecrated. Hanukkah celebrates the liberation of the ancient kingdom of Israel from foreign occupation. It teaches us that freedom must sometimes be fought for—a message that continues to resonate today.

We join all people of Jewish faith in thanking God who has "sustained us and enabled us to reach this season." May the candles of Hanukkah light our memories of those lost on September 11. And may this be a season of joy for us all.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

Proclamation 7512—To Implement the Agreement Between the United States of America and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on the Establishment of a Free Trade Area

December 7, 2001

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

1. On October 24, 2000, the United States of America and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan entered into an Agreement on the Establishment of a Free Trade Area (the "JFTA").

2. Section 101 of the United States-Jordan Free Trade Area Implementation Act (the "JFTA Act") (Public Law 107–43, 115 Stat. 243) (19 U.S.C. 2112 Note) authorizes the President to proclaim such modifications or continuation of any duty, such continuation of duty-free or excise treatment, or such additional duties, as the President determines to be necessary or appropriate to carry out Article 2.1 of the JFTA and the schedule of duty reductions with respect to Jordan set out in Annex 2.1 of the JFTA.

3. Section 102 of the JFTA Act provides certain rules for determining whether an article is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of Jordan, or is a new or different article of commerce that has been grown, produced, or manufactured in Jordan and thus is eligible for the tariff and certain other treatment contemplated under the JFTA ("products of Jordan"). I have determined that it is necessary to include these rules of origin, together with particular rules applicable to certain other goods, in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS).

4. Section 604 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "1974 Act") (19 U.S.C. 2483) authorizes the President to embody in the HTS the substance of relevant provisions of that Act, of other Acts affecting import treatment, and of actions taken thereunder.