

mechanism for determining whether to conduct a trading rotation. A full Options Committee determination may not be possible or practical under many market circumstances. The Commission notes that the CBOE and the Amex do not require full committee approval for conducting a trading rotation.¹⁵

The Commission also believes that it is reasonable to amend the rules of the Exchange to alter the notification procedure for trading rotations to permit notice of such rotations to be disseminated after the close of trading. Currently, notice of a trading rotation must be disseminated to the floor by the close of trading. The Exchange's proposal would require that a trading rotation not commence until five minutes after dissemination of the notice of the rotation. The Commission notes that the CBOE and the PCX require a five minute notice period prior to a trading rotation and permit trading rotation notice to be given after the close of trading.¹⁶

It is contemplated that the Exchange will implement this rule change on or about June 23, 1997.¹⁷

The Exchange has requested that the portion of the proposed rule change that establishes a 4:02 p.m. close of trading for narrow-based index options and modifies option trading rotation practices be given accelerated effectiveness pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act.¹⁸ The Commission finds good cause for approving this portion of the proposed rule change prior to the thirtieth day after the date of publication of notice thereof in the **Federal Register**. The Commission notes that it has approved a 4:02 p.m. close for equity and narrow-based index options for the Amex, CBOE, NYSE, and PCX.¹⁹ The Amex, CBOE and PCX rule filings were published in the **Federal Register**²⁰ and were subject to a full notice and comment period. One

comment letter supporting the proposals was received.²¹ Further, as stated above, the Commission notes that the proposal regarding option trading rotation practices are similar to the current practices of the Amex and PCX.²² Accordingly, the Commission believes, consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, that good cause exists to approve this portion of the proposed rule change on an accelerated basis.

IV. Conclusion

For the reasons discussed above, the Commission finds that the proposal is consistent with the Act, and, in particular, Section 6 of the Act.

It is therefore Ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,²³ that those portions of the proposed rule change that establish a 4:02 p.m. close of trading for equity and narrow-based index options and modify option trading rotation practices (SR-PHLX-97-04) are hereby approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.²⁴

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-14283 Filed 5-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Administration of Plans for Achieving Self-Support (PASS); Public Forum

AGENCY: Social Security Administration (SSA).

ACTION: Notice

DATE: Thursday, June 5, 1997, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Federal Building Auditorium, 1301 Clay Street, Oakland, California 94612.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Type of Meeting: The forum is open to the public. Individuals/organizations wishing to make statements at the forum should register with the Social Security Administration (SSA) prior to the date of the forum.

Purpose: SSA is seeking information and suggestions from the public about its administration of Plans for Achieving Self-Support (PASS), a Supplemental Security Income (SSI) provision. SSI is a federal needs-based program. Under this program, PASS is intended to increase an individual's potential to be

self-supporting. It encourages disabled and blind individuals to return to work by allowing certain income and resources to be excluded from consideration in SSI eligibility determinations and benefit computations. In so doing, the income and resources used for goods and services he or she purchases in order to complete the PASS will not be considered as countable income and resources which could be used for food, clothing and shelter, and may allow the person to receive payments up to the monthly SSI federal benefit rate (plus any State supplementary payment). In order for the provision to apply, the PASS, among other things, must be approved by SSA. The PASS among other things, must stipulate a specific occupational goal, and specify the income and resources to be excluded and how they would be used toward attaining the goal.

While any information and all views about PASS are welcome, SSA is focusing on the following issues:

SSA is responsible for evaluating the feasibility of occupational goals under a PASS. *What standards should SSA use to determine if an occupational goal is feasible for a particular individual?*

SSA must also discern a link between the goods and services sought through a PASS and the stated goal. *What elements should we expect to be present in a plan to demonstrate such a connection?*

What types of goods and services are appropriate for a PASS? What types of goods and services are inappropriate for a PASS? How should SSA evaluate whether the planned costs are reasonable?

In response to concerns about PASS outcomes, *how should SSA define success for the purposes of a PASS?*

PASS recipients must demonstrate progress under an approved PASS. *How should this progress be evaluated by SSA?*

Agenda: The forum will start at 9:00 a.m. with opening statements by representatives from the Social Security Administration providing a historical perspective of the PASS provision.

The remainder of the agenda will be devoted to the presentation of oral statements by members of the public. Statements will be limited to 5 minutes per speaker. Persons wishing to provide oral testimony should contact Pamela Reim of the SSA Regional Public Affairs Office in San Francisco, California to reserve time to speak. Persons who cannot attend the forum but wish to provide information or views for the Agency's consideration can send written statements to: Social Security

¹⁵ See CBOE Rule 6.2, Interpretations and Policies .02; and Amex Rule 1, Commentary .02.

¹⁶ See CBOE Rule 6.2, Interpretations and Policies .02; and PCX Rule 6.64, Commentary .01.

¹⁷ Phone conversation between Edith Hallahan, Exchange and Janice Mitnick, Commission, on May 23, 1997.

¹⁸ Letter from Philip H. Becker, Exchange, to Michael Walinskas, Commission, dated May 22, 1997 (requesting acceleration of narrow-based index options 4:02 p.m. close); phone conversation between Edith Hallahan, Exchange and Janice Mitnick, Commission, on May 23, 1997 (requesting acceleration of option trading rotation practices provision).

¹⁹ See *supra* n.13.

²⁰ See SR-AMEX-96-45, Release No. 34-38123 (January 6, 1997), 62 FR 1786 (January 13, 1997); SR-CBOE-96-71, Release No. 34-37988 (November 26, 1996), 61 FR 64405 (December 4, 1996); and SR-PSE-96-41, Release No. 34-37920 (November 4, 1996), 61 FR 58434 (November 14, 1996).

²¹ See *supra* n.10.

²² See *supra* n.16.

²³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

²⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Administration, PASS Testimony, P. O. Box 17746, Baltimore, MD 21235.

SSA will allow unscheduled testimony from members of the public. However, depending on the number of individuals/organizations wishing to present statements, the time allotted for unscheduled testimony may be limited.

For further information about the forum and to register for presentations, contact: Pamela Reim, Telephone: (415) 744-4664, FAX: (415) 744-2839, E-Mail: pam.reim@ssa.gov.

For further information about PASS, including information about any future forums, you may also contact Steve Fear at (410) 965-9824, or Ray Marzoli at (410) 965-9826.

Dated: May 28, 1997.

Marilyn O'Connell,

Acting Associate Commissioner for Program Benefits Policy.

[FR Doc. 97-14345 Filed 5-30-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 2550]

Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs; Certifications Pursuant to Section 609 of Public Law 101-162

SUMMARY: On May 1, 1997, the Department of State certified, pursuant to Section 609 of Public Law 101-162 ("Section 609"), that 14 nations have adopted programs to reduce the incidental capture of sea turtles in their shrimp fisheries comparable to the program in effect in the United States. The certification earlier in 1997 of Nigeria and Brazil on these same grounds remains valid, so a total of 16 nations are currently certified on this basis. The Department also certified that the fishing environments in 24 other countries do not pose a threat of the incidental taking of sea turtles protected under Section 609. Shrimp imports from any nation not certified were prohibited effective May 1, 1997 pursuant to Section 609.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 2, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Hollis Summers, Office of Marine Conservation, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520-7818; telephone: (202) 647-3940.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 609 of Public Law 101-162 prohibits imports of certain categories of shrimp unless the President certifies to the Congress not later than May 1 of each

year either: (1) That the harvesting nation has adopted a program governing the incidental capture of sea turtles in its commercial shrimp fishery comparable to the program in effect in the United States and has an incidental take rate comparable to that of the United States; or (2) that the fishing environment in the harvesting nation does not pose a threat of the incidental taking of sea turtles. The President has delegated the authority to make this certification to the Department of State. Revised State Department guidelines for making the required certifications were published in the **Federal Register** on April 19, 1996 (61 FR 17342).

The certifications of Nigeria, made on January 14, 1997, and of Brazil, made on April 2, 1997, remain valid. Both nations were certified on the grounds that they have adopted programs to reduce the incidental capture of sea turtles in such fisheries comparable to the program in effect in the United States. On May 1, 1997, the Department certified 14 additional nations on this basis: Belize, China, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela. Ecuador and Colombia, certified on these grounds in 1996, did not retain their certifications because they failed to show that their regulations requiring the use of sea turtle excluder devices (TEDs) were being adequately enforced.

The Department also certified 24 shrimp harvesting nations as having fishing environments that do not pose a danger to sea turtles. Sixteen nations have shrimping grounds only in cold waters where the risk of taking sea turtles is negligible. They are: Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and Uruguay.

Eight nations only harvest shrimp using small boats with crews of less than five that use manual rather than mechanical means to retrieve nets. Use of such small-scale technology does not adversely affect sea turtles. The eight nations are: the Bahamas, Brunei, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Oman, Peru, and Sri Lanka.

Any shipment of shrimp harvested in Ecuador or Colombia with a recorded date of export prior to May 1, 1997 will be allowed entry into the United States even if it arrives on or after May 1, 1997. That is, shipments of shrimp harvested in these countries in transit prior to the effective date of the ban are not barred from entry.

The Department of State communicated the certifications under section 609 to the Office of Trade Operations of the United States Customs Service in a letter transmitted on May 2, 1996. The letter noted that the Department has informed U.S. importers and foreign nations that after May 1, 1997, the Exporter's/Importer's Declaration required to be submitted with all shrimp imports must be the latest version (OMB Approval No. 140-0095, expiration date 9-31-99). We have also notified Customs and foreign and domestic users of the DSP-121 form that, in accordance with a U.S. Court of International Trade order of October 8, 1996, shrimp harvested with TEDs in uncertified nations may not be imported into the United States and that exemption 7.2 on the DSP 121 is not valid until further notice.

Dated: May 15, 1997.

Mary Beth West,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans.

[FR Doc. 97-14293 Filed 5-30-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

[Summary Notice No. PE-97-29]

Petitions for Exemption; Summary of Petitions Received; Dispositions of Petitions Issued

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of petitions for exemption received and of dispositions of prior petitions.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to FAA's rulemaking provisions governing the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for exemption (14 CFR Part 11), this notice contains a summary of certain petitions seeking relief from specified requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR Chapter I), dispositions of certain petitions previously received, and corrections. The purpose of this notice is to improve the public's awareness of, and participation in, this aspect of FAA's regulatory activities. Neither publication of this notice nor the inclusion or omission of information in the summary is intended to affect the legal status of any petition or its final disposition.

DATES: Comments on petitions received must identify the petition docket number involved and must be received on or before June 23, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send comments on any petition in triplicate to: Federal