would we let him?
I want to start our program that’s been sitting up on Capitol Hill for a while moving forward. Move forward on health reform. And Congress comes back from what they call a work period—they’ve been on vacation for a month and a half—next Tuesday. My opponents are divided. Even they know their proposals won’t work. And I say, let Congress start by passing my small-business health care reforms to bring affordable, quality health care to millions of Americans who don’t have it now. Make it a Labor Day present to the American worker and to the American family and get off your backsides and do something about it.

If you think I’m a little frustrated with this gridlocked Congress, you are right. We ought to clean House.

On this Labor Day weekend, we should remember what Jefferson called “the sum of good government,” whether it respected the right of each one of us. Thomas Jefferson said, and I quote, “... a wise and frugal government ... shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread that it has earned.” In Jefferson’s day, doctors made house calls on horseback and life was short. Today, we have miracle medicines that can pluck us from death’s door. But all this is of no matter if we can’t afford it, not if it is reserved only for the privileged or the prosperous, not if it bankrupts the families of America. We must not take from the mouth of labor the bread that you have earned. We must fix the health care system of America.

Once again, let me say I hope this hasn’t been too long and too specific, but this strikes at the core and the well-being of every single family in America. There is no better place to talk about family and family values than it is right here with Steve and Gretel. To all of you, my thanks for this warm Ohio welcome. May God bless the greatest, freest country on the face of the Earth, the United States of America. Thank you all.

Note: The President spoke at 10 a.m. at the Lake County fairgrounds. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks on Arrival in Greenville, South Carolina

September 5, 1992

Thank you all very, very much. What a great welcome back to this wonderful State.

Listen, I am so proud that the First Lady of South Carolina is with us, our old friend Iris Campbell. You’ve got a great Governor, and you’ve got a great First Lady. And they represent this State with honor and dignity.

Let me also say, one of the things we’ve got to do, and I’m glad to see these Inglis signs are, we have got to clean House. We have got to get rid of the gridlocked Congress. So elect this good man standing here to the United States House of Representatives. It is time to clean House and change in Washington. Good idea.

Well, let me just tell you, as I look around all 50 States I see South Carolina out there in the lead for jobs and for bringing new investment into this great State. I was so proud to stand with Carroll Campbell over there in Germany to get that announcement of a major new plant coming to South Carolina because those Germans have the same respect I do for the workers in the State of South Carolina. They know that by coming here we can produce the best products in the world, and this is going to save this country of ours, move it right into the future. We are going to be able to export more and create more jobs in the United States of America by the free and open trade policies that I support and that Carroll Campbell supports.

I also want to say something about the tragedy to the south, because when Barbara and I were down there in Homestead, Florida, we saw these hats; people that had been helped here in South Carolina during
Hurricane Hugo now reaching out, opening their arms to help others down in Florida. It was a wonderful thing. Your State was helped, and now you are helping the victims of the hurricane down there. Hurricane Andrew. I salute the people of South Carolina and North Carolina who were doing this. It is the best of America: one American reaching out to help another. Let me just say, we’re going to move on now over to the Apple Festival in North Carolina, but I want to say this: I am ready for the fight. We are going to take this battle for a better America to the American people. We are going to win the battle for school choice. It’s important that parents can choose where their kids go to school. We are going to win the battle to back up our law enforcement officers and have a little more respect for the victims of crime and a little less for the criminals. We need your help in the Congress for that one. I need Bob up there on that.

We have already helped, thanks to the men and women of South Carolina. I don’t think any State did more than South Carolina in Desert Storm. I was proud of each and every one of those people that served. Having set back aggression there, now we’re going to extend our exports, take advantage of this more peaceful world and bring more prosperity to the workers in the United States of America.

So thank you all very much for this wonderful turnout. Thanks for your belief, confidence in the United States. You know, one of the biggest differences I have with Governor Clinton: he talks about America being in decline; I talk about America on the rise, competent, able to solve the problems.

So thank you for this warm welcome back. We will clean out the Democrats, and we will clean out the House. We will leave Governor Clinton in Arkansas, letting him—struggling with the worst environmental record in the world.

Thank you all very, very much. Thank you very much for the welcome back.

Note: The President spoke at 12:50 p.m. at the Greenville-Spartanburg Airport. In his remarks, he referred to Republican congressional candidate Bob Inglis.

Exchange With Reporters During a Visit With the Harris Family in Asheville, North Carolina

September 5, 1992

Q. Now that you’ve got him here, what do you hope to tell the President?

Mr. Roy Harris. Well, we’re going to talk about this neighborhood here. I want to make sure that he understands our neighborhood and the neighborhood that he’s in right now and how it affects us in policies and decisions that are made. We have a mixed neighborhood here. Therefore, he’ll get a chance to see a typical neighborhood.

Q. Are you a registered Republican or Democrat, sir?

The President. These guys, I’ll tell you what they want to do—

Mr. Harris. Registered Democrat. [Laughter]

The President. A very hospitable one at that, and we are very grateful—[laughter]—for their hospitality. I’ll tell you. It transcends any of these other things. They invited us, and here we are. They really made us feel at home. We’ve only been here 5 minutes.

Mrs. Bush. But you ought to tell them a little bit about what the Harrises do for their community.

The President. You tell them.

Mrs. Bush. Well, you do Little League and—

The President. Coaches. She teaches.

Mrs. Bush. Well, she started the Girl Scout troop. They’re active in their church. Their children get good marks because their parents care. I mean, just by chance they turned out to be an extraordinary family, and they sort of know what family