Unfortunately, the Congress did not include legislation I had sought to stabilize the Savings Association Insurance Fund. It is important for the Congress to take action on this issue quickly so that we can put the thrift crisis behind us without imposing any further costs on the taxpayers.

In addition, I note that section 119(a) of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996, contains a legislative veto, which would be unconstitutional under INS v. Chadha (462 U.S. 919) (1983). However, because I am suspending section 119(a) pursuant to section 119(b), the constitutional problem will be avoided.

With regard to defense, this bill also permits the Federal Government to undertake a multi-year procurement of the C–17 aircraft, the critical next-generation military transport. The C–17 will greatly enhance our ability to respond to crises around the world; buying it this way will save hundreds of millions of dollars for the taxpayers.

This bill represents true compromise and bipartisan cooperation. Clearly, when we work together we can enact good legislation for the American people.

With this in mind, we should build on our efforts here and move on to the larger challenge of balancing the budget over the next 7 years. The American people deserve a balanced budget, and we should give it to them.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House, April 26, 1996.

NOTE: H.R. 3019, approved April 26, was assigned Public Law No. 104–134. The related memorandums on suspension of certain provisions for environmental management are listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Message to the Congress on Waivers for Environmental Management
April 26, 1996

To the Congress of the United States:

I hereby report that I have exercised the authority provided to me under subsection 325(c) of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996, to suspend subsection 325(a) and 325(b) of such Act. A copy of the suspension is attached.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House, April 26, 1996.

NOTE: The President exercised authority to waive certain sections of the Omnibus Consolidation Rescissions Act of 1996 (P.L. 104–134) pursuant to provisions of that act. The suspension memorandum is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Message on the Observance of Eid al-Adha
April 26, 1996

Warm greetings to everyone celebrating Eid al-Adha.

An observance of sacrifice and a celebration of faith, Eid al-Adha is a sacred day for Muslims in our nation and around the world. On this special day, the entire global Muslim community joins in spirit with those who have traveled to Mecca to complete the Hajj.

The Festival of the Sacrifice reminds all of us of the need for obedience to God, prompts us to reflect on God’s mercy, and gives participants a welcome opportunity to join with friends
and family in a community celebration of faith. In commemorating this holy day, Muslims in America and in countries around the world serve as a source of strong faith that can enrich our lives and strengthen our common values.

Best wishes for a memorable and meaningful observance.

BILL CLINTON

Remarks at a Democratic Reception in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
April 26, 1996

Thank you very much. Come on up, Congressman—give Congressman Borski a hand for going to his daughter’s soccer game. Give him a hand. [Applause] One of the things you need to know if you’re in public life is how to make a proper entrance. [Laughter] And Bob just qualified. Actually, I saw him this morning. We were both out running at Fort McNair in Washington, DC, and he said he’d be here tonight. And I thank him for keeping his word.

Thank you, Congressman Chaka Fattah, for that powerful introduction and for your great service. Thank you, Congressman Tom Foglietta, for your friendship and your support. Thank you, Gussie, and thank you, Mina Baker Knoll, and thank you, Joe Kohn.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman Fowler, for all the endless nights that you go back and forth across America in search of the magical chemistry of victory, not just for our party and our candidates but for the kind of America we’re fighting for. And thank you, Mr. Mayor, for proving that the Democratic Party can be the party of the future and the party of all the people, the party of compassion and competence, the party of the mind and the party of the heart. Thank you all.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am deeply moved by this large outpouring. As President Kennedy used to say, I am deeply touched, but not so deeply touched as you are tonight. [Laughter] I thank you for your support, and I thank you for your commitment to your city, your State, and your country. Pennsylvania and Philadelphia have been very, very good to me. And as all of you know, this State and this part of our State has a special place in my wife’s heart and her family history. And we’re delighted always, either one of us, to have a chance to come.

I think you know why we’re here, or you wouldn’t be here. But let me just say again very briefly, when I ran for President in 1992 and the State of Pennsylvania gave Bill Clinton and Al Gore its electoral votes, when Philadelphia gave our ticket a larger margin than President Kennedy received here in 1960, we had a very straightforward vision for our country, a vision for what we wanted America to look like in the 21st century and what we wanted America to be like for all the children that are here.

First, we wanted a country where every person who is willing to work for it, without regard to their race, their income, or their background, could have a chance to live out their dreams. Second, we wanted a country that was coming together, not being driven apart; that was reaching across the racial and other lines that divide us to find strength in our diversity and our shared values. Third, I wanted to see our country continue to be the world’s strongest force for peace and freedom and prosperity and security, so that we could build a framework for the 21st century that would free our children of the worries that two World Wars and the cold war imposed upon generation after generation after generation of Americans in the 20th century.

In short, I really believed that if we did the right thing, the new global economy could open up the greatest age of possibility our people have ever known. I still believe that. And what I come to you to say is that we have a record that we can be proud of. Together we’ve done what we said we’d do in 1992. But it is a record to build on, not a record to sit on. It is a record to go forward from, and not a record to take a radical turn away from. That is what is at stake here.

The American people in a way are fortunate in this election year. In 1992, there was a big debate about change or the status quo. That’s