

Statement on the Resignation of Federico Peña as Secretary of Energy *April 6, 1998*

Earlier today, with regret, I accepted Secretary of Energy Federico Peña's resignation.

Secretary Peña has admirably served my administration, first as Secretary of Transportation and then as Secretary of Energy. It is a measure of my confidence in his abilities that I entrusted him to run not one but two Cabinet agencies.

In his last year he diligently managed the Energy Department, focusing on energy, environmental quality, national security, and science and technology issues. Just last week Secretary Peña unveiled our Comprehensive Electricity Competition Plan, saving consumers \$20 billion per year by introducing competition into the electricity industry. Under his leadership, the Department of Energy provided much of the analysis that gave me the confidence that we can reduce greenhouse gas emissions without harming the economy.

In the last year he helped shape our policy in the Caspian region, building a coalition

among the key nations in that region; he provided a comprehensive national energy strategy for the Nation that will help ensure that Americans have affordable, clean, and secure energy supplies in the 21st century; and he privatized Elk Hills Naval Petroleum Reserve, generating \$3.65 billion for U.S. taxpayers.

During his 4 years at the Transportation Department, Secretary Peña increased the level of competitiveness of America's transportation industry with more investments in mass transit than at any time since Woodrow Wilson was President. Secretary Peña helped to improve travel safety, signed aviation agreements with 40 nations, opened lucrative markets for American airlines, and oversaw a 25 percent increase in infrastructure investments.

I wish Secretary Peña, his wife, Ellen, and their three children the best for the future. I thank him for his invaluable service as a member of my Cabinet.

Statement on British and French Ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

April 6, 1998

Today, France and Great Britain deposited their instruments of ratification for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in New York, thus becoming the first nuclear weapon states to ratify the CTBT.

I applaud this milestone in the global effort to reduce the nuclear threat and build a safer world. In particular, I want to thank Prime Minister Blair and President Chirac and the Parliaments of Great Britain and France for their

leadership in paving the way towards early entry into force of this historic treaty.

The CTBT has now been signed by 149 states, including all 5 nuclear weapon states. In my State of the Union Address, I asked the Senate to give its advice and consent to the CTBT this year. The CTBT is in the best interests of the United States because its provisions will significantly further our nuclear non-proliferation and arms control objectives and strengthen international security.

Statement on a Breast Cancer Prevention Study

April 6, 1998

Today's new research findings about the potential use of the drug tamoxifen to prevent

breast cancer are an historic step in the ongoing fight against this deadly disease. Breast cancer

strikes one in eight American women, and about 180,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 1998. Each of us has a sister, a daughter, a friend, or in my case, a mother, who has fought against it.

The landmark Breast Cancer Prevention Trial gives us new hope that some women at high risk for breast cancer may actually be able to reduce their risk of getting this life threatening disease. It is an important contribution to our

national battle to detect, prevent, treat, and finally cure breast cancer for generations of women to come.

NOTE: In the statement, the President referred to the Breast Cancer Prevention Trial, a joint study of the National Cancer Institute and the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on the National Emergency With Respect to the Lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979

April 6, 1998

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

As required by section 204 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1703(c)) and section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1641(c)), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency declared by Executive Order 12924 of August 19, 1994, to deal with the threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States caused by

the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 7.

Remarks to a National Forum on Social Security in Kansas City, Missouri

April 7, 1998

Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. Good morning. Thank you, Governor Carnahan, for your leadership on so many areas and your friendship. I'd like to thank the leaders of this fine institution for welcoming us here and for the mission they perform every day. I thank Senators Kerrey and Santorum for their concern—longstanding—for Social Security reform and their presence here, and Representatives Hulshof and Pomeroy, who are participating in the program, and Representative McCarthy and also Representative David Dreier from California, who is a native of Kansas City, who are here.

I thank the members of our administration who have come, who will be participating: the

Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Frank Raines; the Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, Larry Summers; the Director of the National Economic Council, Gene Sperling; and the Administrator of Social Security, Ken Apfel.

Attorney General Nixon, Treasurer Graeber, Insurance Commissioner Sebelius, thank you all for being here. Mayor Cleaver, thank you for hosting us. I don't know if Mayor Marinovich is here or not, but if she is, hello. *[Laughter]*

I'd also like to thank the leaders of the AARP, including Horace Deets, and the leaders of the Concord Coalition, including Martha Phillips, for their hosting of this forum. The AARP has long