

Remarks During a Visit to the Headquarters of the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans in Houston, Texas

June 14, 2002

Let me say a couple of words. I know you're anxiously awaiting them. First, it's great to be back in Texas. I'm proud to be here with my friend the Governor and Congressman Green.

Before I talk about service, I want to say something about Karachi. We fight an enemy that are radical killers; that's what they are. You know, they claim they're religious people, and they blow up Muslims. They have no regard for individual life.

Our hearts go out to the—our citizens and those affected by the bombings that took place. Our prayers are with their families, are with the families of the people in Pakistan as well.

But these people, if they think they're going to intimidate the United States, they do not understand the United States of America. And we will continue to hunt them down and seek justice.

Secondly, as we make America more secure, we've got to make it a better place. Today is Flag Day. We can talk about patriotism, but a true patriot is one not only who salutes the flag, but a true patriot is one who serves the community in which they live.

So I want to thank AAMA for its great work in Houston and now, I understand, the valley. I want to thank the visionaries who put together this charter school. I want to thank AmeriCorps for being a part of the after-school program. I want to thank the mentors for understanding that out of evil done to America and out of the evil continuing to be done to others around the world can come some incredible good. And the good that can happen is, children can realize the great American Dream—start right here, learn to read, go to college, and can succeed in America; that where there may be hopelessness and despair, love and compassion will overcome it.

And so I want to thank you all for letting me come by. Thank you for reading so well, and see you in college.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:30 p.m. at the Headquarters Summer Enrichment Camp. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Rick Perry of Texas. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks. The Flag Day and National Flag Week proclamation of June 7 is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Statement on Signing the Export-Import Bank Reauthorization Act of 2002

June 14, 2002

I have today signed into law S. 1372, the Export-Import Bank Reauthorization Act of 2002. This legislation will ensure the continued effective operation of the Export-Import Bank, which helps advance U.S. trade policy, facilitate the sale of U.S. goods and services abroad, and create jobs here at home.

The executive branch shall carry out section 7(b) of the bill, which relates to certain small businesses, in a manner consistent with the requirements of equal protection under the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution.

Subsections 10(a) and 10(b)(2) of the bill purport to require the Secretary of the Treasury to negotiate with foreign countries

and international organizations to achieve particular purposes and to require the Secretary to submit a report to congressional committees on the contents of negotiations and certain related executive deliberations. These provisions interfere with the President's constitutional authority to conduct the Nation's foreign affairs, supervise the unitary executive branch, and withhold information the disclosure of which could impair foreign relations, the national security, the deliberative processes of the executive, or the performance of the executive's constitutional duties. Accordingly, the executive branch shall construe these provisions as precatory rather than mandatory.

The executive branch shall construe the reference to the "Universal Declaration of

Human Rights adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948," added to section 2(b)(1)(B) of the Export-Import Bank Act by section 15 of the bill, as only providing examples of types of human rights that the President may wish to consider in making a determination under section 2(b)(1)(B) and not as giving the Universal Declaration the force of U.S. law.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
June 14, 2002.

NOTE: S. 1372, approved June 14, was assigned Public Law No. 107-189.

Remarks at a Reception for Governor Rick Perry of Texas in Houston June 14, 2002

The President. Thank you for that warm welcome. It's another reason I'm glad to be home—[laughter]—that, plus getting a little culture. [Laughter] I can't tell you how great it is to see so many friends. I want to thank you for your prayers, for your friendship. I want to thank you for helping Laura and me serve our country.

I'm here today to talk about a man who—there's no doubt in my mind—is not only going to win in November but do a fine, fine job on behalf of the Texas people. We've shared a lot. We have both been Governors. And we both married above ourselves. [Laughter] I appreciate Anita Perry, the first lady of the State of Texas, and she's bringing a lot of class to the office.

I'm sorry Laura isn't here with me. She's in Crawford.

Audience member. We are, too.

The President. Well, I'm sure you are. I can understand that. [Laughter] You probably wish she was speaking. [Laughter]

It's hard to believe that a public school librarian who didn't particularly care about politics or politicians—[laughter]—is now the First Lady of this great country, and she's doing a magnificent job. I'm really proud of her. Of course she, like my mother, is still telling me what to do. [Laughter] Marjorie, I'm of course listening. [Laughter] But we're doing great. We really are. Our family's strong. Our spirit is strong. Our love for our country has never been greater.

I want to thank all the elected officials who are here. I particularly want to say something about the next attorney general, Greg Abbott. Greg, I want to thank you for your—[applause]. I want to thank Henry Bonilla for being here and for his work on behalf of our party and the Victory Committee. I want to thank Justices Jefferson and Rodriguez, who are here with us tonight.

I know there's all kinds of candidates—Judge Carter, who's running in the 31st