

the Members of Congress who put the interest of the workers and taxpayers ahead of lawyers. I look forward to working with the new Congress on stronger measures to prevent abusive lawsuits. And today I'm taking steps to ensure that no taxpayer dollar will be spent on legal settlements without the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury. The Secretary will work to ensure that settlements are fair to victims, not windfalls for the legal class of America.

The act of Congress I sign today will encourage greater competition in the insurance market and add strength to our economy. But there's more to do. I'll work with Democrats and Republicans in the next Congress to pass a growth-and-jobs package early next year. My Administration is determined to make America safer, to make our economy stronger, and we're making progress on both fronts.

America has entered a new kind of war, requiring aggressive action abroad and active defense at home. Yesterday I signed into law the new Department of Homeland Security, to organize our Government for the long-term challenge of protecting America. Today, with terrorism insurance, we're defending America by making our economy more secure. Both these achievements show the unity of our Nation in a time of testing and our resolve to lead America to a better day.

I'm now pleased to sign the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:30 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. H.R. 3210, approved November 26, was assigned Public Law No. 107-297. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

## Memorandum on Implementation of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002

November 26, 2002

### *Memorandum for the Secretary of the Treasury*

I hereby direct you to exercise your authority under the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 to propose a rule that would require an insurer to obtain your advance

approval of any proposed settlement of causes of action described in section 107 arising out of or resulting from an act of terrorism.

GEORGE W. BUSH

## Remarks at the Thanksgiving Turkey Presentation Ceremony

November 26, 2002

Good afternoon, and welcome to the Rose Garden. I'm glad you all are here.

I see the turkey standing there. [*Laughter*] He looks a little nervous, doesn't he? [*Laughter*] He probably thinks he's going to have a press conference. [*Laughter*]

I really appreciate you coming to watch me give this bird a Presidential pardon. I'm especially glad to see all the young people who are here. Thank you for coming—and such wonderful looking costumes. We welcome the Boys and Girls Clubs, the Boy Scouts, and school students from the