

all around the country so that they can teach students Advanced Placement.

We also want to encourage scientists and chemists and physicists to come into the classrooms all around the country to excite students about the possibilities of science and engineering. And the reason why is, in order for America to be a competitive nation in the years to come, we have got to have a workforce that is strong in engineering and science and physics. You know, some would hope that the competition around the world will go away; it's not going to. And so we have a choice to make: Do we want to retreat, become protectionist, or do we want to seize the moment and shape our future?

And so the American Competitiveness Initiative I've outlined says that America will continue to lead. We'll shape our fu-

ture, and we'll make sure our kids are well-versed in science and math and engineering.

Again, I want to thank you all for letting us come to your school. It's a fantastic school. It really does brighten my hopes about the future of the country to see you all and see your enthusiasm for the subjects and to listen to your very articulate explanations of the different courses you're studying. Thanks a lot. Appreciate it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:13 p.m. at Yvonne A. Ewell Townview Magnet Center. In his remarks, he referred to Richard White, principal, the School of Science and Engineering; and Michael Hinojosa, general superintendent, Dallas Independent School District.

## The President's Radio Address *February 4, 2006*

Good morning. This week in the State of the Union Address, I set forth my American Competitiveness Initiative. This plan will help our Nation to compete with confidence, raise the standard of living for our families, and generate new jobs for our citizens.

Generations of risk takers, inventors, and visionaries have made America the world's most prosperous and innovative nation. Just 25 years ago, most Americans used typewriters instead of computers, rotary phones instead of cell phones, and bank tellers instead of ATMs. Today, America is at the doorstep of even more technological advances. But we cannot afford to be complacent. We're seeing the rise of new competitors like China and India, who are making great strides in technology. In response, some people want to wall off our economy from the world. That is called protectionism. The American people should not

fear our economic future because we intend to shape our economic future.

To keep America the world's most competitive and innovative nation, we must continue to lead the world in human talent and creativity. My American Competitiveness Initiative will encourage innovation throughout our economy and give American children a firm grounding in math and science.

This initiative has three key elements. The first element is to double the Federal commitment to the most critical basic research programs in the physical sciences over the next decade. Most of the technological advances we enjoy today are the fruits of research investments made years ago, and many of these advances benefited from Government support. The increased

funding I have proposed will support America's creative minds as they explore promising areas such as nanotechnology, supercomputing, and alternative energy sources. These investments will lead to new inventions that offer better choices for consumers and a better life for our citizens.

The second element of this new initiative is to encourage bolder private sector investment in technology, because the private sector remains America's greatest engine of innovation. The research and development tax credit gives businesses an incentive to invest in projects that could lead to new discoveries. Congress allowed this tax credit to expire at the end of 2005, and the House and Senate are now considering another temporary extension. But a temporary extension does not allow our innovators to plan and invest with certainty. Other countries offer permanent tax incentives for research and development. To keep America the world's leader in technology and innovation, Congress needs to make the tax credit for research and development permanent.

The third element of this initiative is to make sure our children learn the skills they will need to keep America the world's most innovative country. Math and science are critical to many of our country's fastest-growing industries, so we must encourage our children to take more math and science

classes and make sure those classes are rigorous enough to compete with other nations. I'm proposing that we train 70,000 high school teachers to lead Advanced Placement courses in math and science, bring 30,000 math and science professionals to teach in classrooms, and give early help to students who struggle with math so they have a better chance at good, high-wage jobs. If we ensure that America's children succeed in life, they will ensure that America succeeds in the world.

The American Competitiveness Initiative will help our Nation remain the world's economic leader. By investing in research and development, unleashing the innovative spirit of America's entrepreneurs, and making sure that our economy has workers highly skilled in math and science, we will lay the foundation for lasting economic prosperity.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 10:20 a.m. on February 3 at the Marriott Hotel Albuquerque in Albuquerque, NM, for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on February 4. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 3 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

## Statement on the International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors Vote To Report Iran to the United Nations Security Council *February 4, 2006*

Today in Vienna, the International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors voted to report Iran to the United Nations Security Council. This important step sends a clear message to the regime in Iran that the world will not permit the Iranian regime to gain nuclear weapons.

The Security Council will now address the IAEA Board's finding of "Iran's many failures and breaches of its obligations to comply" with its Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty Safeguards Agreement. We expect the Security Council to add its weight to