

*Aug. 11 / Administration of Barack Obama, 2010*

the way of doing what's right for our economy and for our future, and don't bet against the American worker or lose faith in American industry. This is a nation that has always been proud of what it builds, and it is that spirit that's going to lead our recovery forward.

We've been through tough times before, and it is precisely in those times that we rebuilt, we retooled, we recaptured the ingenuity and resilience that makes this Nation so great. That's

how our predecessors built the first American century. That's how we'll build the next. And it's in that spirit that I will now sign this bill into law. Thank you very much, everybody.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:07 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. H.R. 4380, approved August 11, was assigned Public Law No. 111-227.

## Statement on the Observance of Ramadan

*August 11, 2010*

On behalf of the American people, Michelle and I want to extend our best wishes to Muslims in America and around the world. *Ramadan Kareem*.

Ramadan is a time when Muslims around the world reflect upon the wisdom and guidance that comes with faith and the responsibility that human beings have to one another and to God. This is a time when families gather, friends host iftars, and meals are shared. But Ramadan is also a time of intense devotion and reflection, a time when Muslims fast during the day and pray during the night, when Muslims provide support to others to advance opportunity and prosperity for people everywhere. For all of us must remember that the world we want to build and the changes that we want to make must begin in our own hearts and our own communities.

These rituals remind us of the principles that we hold in common, and Islam's role in advancing justice, progress, tolerance, and the dignity of all human beings. Ramadan is a celebration of a faith known for great diversity and racial equality. And here in the United States, Ramadan is a reminder that Islam has always been part of America and that American Muslims have made extraordinary contributions to our country. And today I want to extend my best wishes to the 1.5 billion Muslims around the world—and your families and friends—as you welcome the beginning of Ramadan.

I look forward to hosting an iftar dinner celebrating Ramadan here at the White House later this week, and wish you a blessed month. May God's peace be upon you.

## Statement on Congressional Passage of Southwest Border Security Legislation

*August 12, 2010*

I have made securing our Southwest border a top priority since I came to office. That is why my administration has dedicated unprecedented resources and personnel to combating the transnational criminal organizations that traffic in drugs, weapons, and money and smuggle people across the border with Mexico. Today's action by Congress answers my call to bolster the essential work of Federal law enforcement officials and improve their ability to partner with State, local, and tribal law enforcement. The resources made available through this leg-

islation will build upon our successful efforts to protect communities along the Southwest border and across the country. And this new law will also strengthen our partnership with Mexico in targeting the gangs and criminal organizations that operate on both sides of our shared border. So these steps will make an important difference as my administration continues to work with Congress toward bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform to secure our borders and restore responsibility and accountability to our broken immigration system.