

Oct. 25 / Administration of Barack Obama, 2010

So that's what we're working for. That's the guiding principle behind all of my administration's activities, is how do we make sure that the economy is growing and that the middle class is growing, because that's the beating heart of this economy. What you do here is a great example of what we've got to be able to do all across this country.

We're proud of you, and I thank you so much for letting us join you here today and seeing the

wonderful success that you've been able to accomplish.

Thank you very much, everybody. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:53 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to Mark J. Krauss, president, and Raymond J. Velino, general manager, American Cord & Webbing Co., Inc.; and Helene Krauss, wife of Mr. Krauss, and their children Bari, Sloane, Jordan, and Alex Krauss.

Statement on National Work and Family Month

October 25, 2010

National Work and Family Month serves as a reminder to all of us, especially working caregivers, their families, and their employers, that while we have made great strides as a nation to adopt more flexible policies in the workplace, there's more we can do. Millions of Americans continue to struggle day in and day out to balance work and family life, to juggle their job responsibilities with caring for a child, an elderly relative, or a loved one with a disability. This is something Michelle and I understand; it wasn't too long ago that we were both working full-time outside the home while raising two young daughters.

There are steps we can all take to help—implementing practices like telework, paid leave, and alternative work schedules—and my administration is committed to doing its part to help advance these practices across the country. And within the Federal Government, we have followed the lead of many private sector companies when it comes to increasing workplace flexibility. Because at the end of the day, attracting and retaining employees who are more productive and engaged through flexible workplace policies is not just good for business or for our economy, it's good for our families and our future.

Remarks at a Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee Reception in Providence, Rhode Island

October 25, 2010

The President. Hello, Rhode Island! Thank you so much. Thank you. Are you fired up?

Audience members. Wool!

The President. It is good to be back in Rhode Island. It is good to be here for an outstanding soon-to-be Member of Congress, Dave Cicil-line.

Now, you already have some great Members of Congress, and so I just want to make quick mention of them. Your senior Senator, one of the finest Senators that I know, Jack Reed is in the house; his great partner, junior Senator Sheldon Whitehouse. A dear friend, Patrick Kennedy, is here. Outstanding legislator Jim Langevin is here. And somebody who's working

so hard to maintain a Democratic majority across the country, the head of the DCCC, Chris Van Hollen, is here. Thank you, Chris. And all of you are here. And I'm really happy about that.

Now, Providence, 1 week from tomorrow, you have the chance to set the direction not just for this State, but for this country, not just for the next 2 years, but for the next two decades. And just like you did in 2008, you have the chance to defy the conventional wisdom.

Now, you remember in 2008, everybody looks back and says, oh, that was easy. No, it wasn't easy. [*Laughter*] In retrospect it looked easy. But at the time, everybody said, you can't