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the history of this country. There's no question about that. Whether it is in managing the reduction of the size of Government to its smallest point since 1960 or managing our effort to hook up our classrooms to the Internet or trying to get higher-mileage vehicles out of Detroit or dealing with a lot of our most sensitive foreign policy issues, he's experienced—he works like a dog. He works as hard as anybody I have ever known, and I don't care what anybody tells you—in the world we're living in, it matters whether you're willing to work hard, and he keeps learning, and he cares about these things.

Now, here's what I want to ask you to do. You can remember those three things I said, can't you? If you want to build on the prosperity, and you know that 3.1 is bigger than 2, and you want America to be out of debt with low interest rates and high growth, you've got to be for Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Ross.

If you want a Patients' Bill of Rights and Medicare drugs and funds to construct schools and hire teachers, if you want us to keep investing in new forms of fuel, if you want to keep moving forward with more police in little towns and rural areas in Arkansas, you only have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Ross.

If you want a policy where we're all going forward together, which is why we're for the minimum wage and equal pay and civil rights as one America, you only have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Ross.

Now, here's what I want to tell you: This race is tight as a tick—[*laughter*]—here, in this district, in this State, and all over this country. There's 12 or 15 States that are within two points, one way or the other. And I'll tell you who is going to win. Who is going to win is, who wants to go bad enough.

If you want Mike Ross to win badly enough, there's enough people right here to win this race for him. If you want Al Gore to carry Arkansas and you believe in what we've done and you're proud of what we've done the last 8 years, and you can't imagine why anybody would want to reverse these policies that are working instead of build on them, there's enough people right here in this room to carry the election.

Every one of you—every one of you has a ton of friends who have never come to a rally like this, don't you? You've got a lot of friends that have never heard a President speak or a Governor speak, and they're probably wondering what you're doing here on Sunday afternoon. You could be home watching football. Is that right?

So what I want you to promise yourself is, every free minute you've got between now and the time the polls close, you will call people and say, "Let me tell you why you ought to vote, let me tell you why you ought to vote for Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Ross." We've got to keep the prosperity going, not put it at risk; we've got to keep the progress going, not reverse it; we've got to keep going forward together as one country. If you will do that, Mike Ross and Al Gore and Joe Lieberman, they're going to have a big celebration Tuesday night, and our children will have a brighter future.

Thank you, and God Bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:30 p.m. in the Banquet Hall at the Pine Bluff Convention Center. In his remarks, he referred to vocalist Carrie Paige; State Attorney General Mark Pryor; Lottie Shackelford, vice chair, and Carroll Willis, director, community service division, Democratic National Committee; Arkansas Secretary of State Sharon Priest; State Representative Hank Wilkins; former Senators Dale Bumpers and David Pryor; and Mike Ross, candidate for Arkansas' Fourth Congressional District.

Proclamation 7370—National Family Caregivers Month, 2000

November 5, 2000

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

All Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the family caregivers among us—the generous, compassionate individuals who daily face the challenge of caring for loved ones who are frail, chronically ill, or living with disabilities that restrict their independence. These everyday heroes, living quietly among us in families and communities across the country, are the major source of long-term

care in America. By providing billions of dollars' worth of caregiving services each year, they dramatically reduce the demands on our Nation's health care system and make an extraordinary contribution to the quality of life of their loved ones.

Caregivers often pay an emotional and physical price as well as a financial one. Few enjoy any free time because they must juggle the demands of home and work while meeting the special needs of the individuals in their care. Many do not have the support of other family members or friends and consequently experience depression, a sense of isolation, and the stress of knowing they must carry out their important duties alone. Studies have indicated that such caregiver stress can have a physical consequence, contributing to a higher mortality rate among elderly caregivers who themselves have a history of chronic illness.

But caregivers should not have to face their challenges alone, and my Administration has worked hard to ensure that they will not have to do so. I am pleased that the Congress has finally passed the Older Americans Act Amendments of 2000, which will strengthen and improve the services available to senior citizens in every State, from home-delivered meals to transportation services to legal assistance. This legislation also includes authorization for our new National Family Caregiver Support Program, which will provide quality respite care and other support services to hundreds of thousands of families who are struggling to care for loved ones.

The Long-Term Care Security Act that I signed into law in September authorizes the Office of Personnel Management to negotiate with private insurers to offer more affordable, high-quality, long-term care insurance policies to Federal employees, retirees, and their families. This initiative will help some 13 million Americans better prepare for the future and ease the fear of having to deplete their life savings to care for a loved one.

We must also help families who need long-term care assistance right now. I continue to call on the Congress to provide a $3,000 tax credit for the millions of Americans with long-term care needs and the families who care for them. Passage of a new, voluntary Medicare prescription drug benefit would also go a long way toward easing the financial burden on family caregivers.

Caregiving touches us all, either within our own families or within our communities. As we observe National Family Caregivers Month, let us thank the millions of devoted men and women across our Nation who enable our loved ones who are frail, chronically ill, or living with disabilities to live in dignity in the warmth and familiarity of home.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2000 as National Family Caregivers Month. I call upon all Americans to acknowledge and honor the contributions of caregivers to the quality of our national life.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 7, 2000]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 6, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on November 8.

Remarks on Signing Poor Nation Debt-Relief Funding Legislation

November 6, 2000

The President. Thank you very much. I'd like to welcome you all here to the White House, especially the distinguished members of the diplomatic corps who are here, and four of the Members of the United States Congress who helped to make this possible: Representative Spencer Bachus, Representative John Kasich, Representative John LaFalce, and Senator Paul Sarbanes. I thank you all for being here.

You know, in Washington, DC, if you get a group this diverse in the same room, you're normally there for a roast. [*Laughter*] Today, happily, it's a celebration.