

not interested in setting up a program and having somebody lose it all at the dice table. That's not how it works.

And this has happened—people who are in a 401(k) know what I'm talking about—or in an IRA. And what we're interested in is getting a decent rate of return on your money, because over time, it grows and it compounds. It's called the compounding rate of interest. And it's important that that money be allowed to compound and grow. So your grandson is wise in saying, "I want a chance to watch my money grow over the next 30 or 40 years," money that will be a part of a retirement account.

And so my job is to keep talking, assuring seniors that you're going to get your check. I hope your neighborhood is listening. Because they're going to get their check. And your grandson, obviously, is listening because he understands he isn't going to get one—*[laughter]*—unless the Federal Government stops playing party politics and focuses on the good of the United States of America. That's what we're here to talk about.

I want to thank again—I want to thank the Chamber for giving us a chance to come by and say hello. I am so grateful that we had a chance to explain to the good folks of Atlanta and whoever else is listening that there's a really interesting opportunity for seniors when it comes to good health care through Medicare. And there's an opportunity for those of us who have entered politics to solve problems, to do so when it comes to Social Security. These are important issues for today's seniors, and they're important issues for people who are going to retire.

In other words, this is a generational issue. Social Security is a generational issue. And again, I repeat, I want the youngsters who are paying attention to this to understand the consequences of inactivity. And if you see inactivity, I would strongly urge you to get involved in the system and let people know that you're not happy with what's going on. It's time for us to address this problem head on.

We're in the process of making changes in Medicare. If you want to be involved, please do so. Call 1-800-Medicare. Find out if the program is right for your grandmother or grandfather, your mom or dad. If you're

running a community-based program, call 1-800-Medicare and find out how we can get materials to you. If you're interested in your church or your synagogue or your mosque or your religious organization and you want to help the seniors who attend there, find out what we're talking about. Just take a look at the brochures—it won't take long—and then give somebody some good advice. Say, "Here are the options. It's your choice to make." I think you're going to find this to be a really exciting way to help our seniors get a modernized health care system.

Thank you all for letting us come by. May God bless you all, and may God continue to bless our country.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:58 a.m. at the Boisfeuillet Jones Atlanta Civic Center. In his remarks, he referred to Thomas D. Bell, Jr., chairman of the board of directors, and Sam A. Williams, president, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce; Gov. Sonny Perdue of Georgia and his wife, Mary; James W. Wagner, president, Emory University; and Robert C. Pozen, former member, President's Commission to Strengthen Social Security.

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting Budget Amendments

July 22, 2005

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed FY 2006 budget amendments for the Department of Homeland Security. These proposals support the Department's organizational restructuring plan, which Secretary Chertoff transmitted to the Congress on July 13. Overall, the discretionary budget authority proposed in my FY 2006 Budget would not be increased by this reorganization proposal.

The details of these proposals are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this letter.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

July 16

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

July 17

In the morning, the President and Mrs. Bush went to St. John's Episcopal Church, where they attended services with Prime Minister John Howard of Australia and his wife, Janette.

July 18

In the morning, the President had a breakfast meeting with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. He then had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of India.

Later in the morning, in the Blue Room, the President and Prime Minister Singh participated in a photo opportunity with members of the U.S.-India CEO Forum. Later, in the Diplomatic Reception Room, he and Prime Minister Singh participated in a photo opportunity with administration officials of Indian descent.

In the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President participated in a photo opportunity with 2005 Scripps Howard Spelling Bee champion Anurag Kashyap.

The President announced that he has named Liza Wright as Assistant to the President for Presidential Personnel.

July 19

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with Prime Minister John Howard of Australia.

In the afternoon, in the Residence, the President and Mrs. Bush had lunch with Prime Minister Howard and his wife, Janette. Later, the President had a telephone conversation with Judge John G. Roberts, Jr., to

offer him the nomination to be an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush had dinner with Judge Roberts and his wife, Jane. Later, he had separate telephone conversations with Senators Bill Frist, Arlen Specter, Harry Reid, and Patrick J. Leahy to discuss his nomination of Judge Roberts.

The President announced his intention to nominate William Robert Timken, Jr., to be Ambassador to Germany.

The President announced his intention to designate Paul M. Golan as Acting Director of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management.

July 20

In the morning, in the Residence, the President had coffee with Associate Justice-Designate John G. Roberts, Jr. Later, they had a meeting in the Oval Office. He then had an intelligence briefing.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to Baltimore, MD, where, at the Dundalk Marine Terminal, he viewed a U.S. Customs and Border Protection demonstration. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

In the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President had a meeting with Republican Members of the House of Representatives to discuss the Central American-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA). Later, he had a meeting followed by a photo opportunity with Colombian Government representatives and Colombian Americans, in honor of Colombian Independence Day.

Later in the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President met with U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan Ronald E. Neumann.

In the evening, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of India.

July 21

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had a briefing concerning the attempted terrorist bombings in London, England, earlier in the day.

Later in the morning, in the Oval Office, the President participated in a bill signing ceremony with the parents of Sgt. Bryon W. Norwood, USA, who was killed in Iraq on