

pass a strong hate crimes law, to promote diversity, to end discrimination in the work force. We must all recommit ourselves to respecting one another, to seeing our diversity as our greatest strength, and to recognizing the fundamental values that define us as one America.

Ultimately, this effort begins on the ground, at the grassroots. You can reach out to troubled youth. You can help to change a culture that too often glorifies violence and hate. You can talk to your children, teach them to resolve their conflicts peacefully, and raise them with the right values. I'm grateful, because in Memphis, you're doing these things. And there's no mission more important for our Nation.

Your work in Memphis, and the work of the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission, is a testament to the fundamental goodness of the American spirit. It sets an example I hope cities all across our land will follow.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The remarks were videotaped at approximately 7:40 p.m. in the Map Room at the White House on March 28 for broadcast to the meeting in Memphis, TN, on April 14. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 21. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

## Statement on Russian State Duma Action on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

*April 21, 2000*

I am pleased that the Russian State Duma today approved the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). I look forward to prompt action on the CTBT by the Federation Council, which also approved the START II Treaty earlier this week.

More than 150 countries have signed the CTBT so far, agreeing to stop all nuclear explosive testing. Ratification of the CTBT by Russia would mean that 30 of the 44 states whose ratification is required for entry into force have

now approved this historic agreement, including many U.S. friends and allies. Approval of the CTBT by Russia—as well as the recent approvals by Chile, Bangladesh, and Turkey—renews momentum for the international effort to halt the spread of nuclear weapons and promote disarmament around the world.

I congratulate President-elect Putin and his government, members of the State Duma, and Russian citizens who together worked to achieve this important step toward a safer future.

## Message on the Observance of Easter, 2000

*April 21, 2000*

Warm greetings to everyone celebrating Easter.

In this holy season, Christians across America and around the world relive the events of Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection, rejoice in His fulfillment of the promise of salvation, and give prayerful thanks for the assurance of God's forgiving love.

As Christians, we have been called to share that forgiveness with others. Across the globe, in places large and small, we have witnessed the tragic consequences of humanity's refusal

to forgive. Ancient feuds, ethnic tensions, old hatreds and prejudices—these have torn apart families, communities, and nations for decades and continue to bring suffering to our world. On this, the first Easter of the new millennium and in the Jubilee Year of Christ's birth, the challenge to each of us is to reflect God's love and forgiveness in all our actions.

Let us strive to see beyond the surface differences that may divide us from one another by discovering the values we share. Let us work