

choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Honda.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:43 p.m. in the Parkside Ballroom at the San Jose Civic Center.

In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Ron Gonzales of San Jose; Gov. Gray Davis of California; former professional baseball players Willie Mays and Hank Aaron; and Mike Honda, candidate for California's 15th Congressional District.

Statement on the Unemployment Rate *November 3, 2000*

Today we received more good economic news for the American people. Our Nation's unemployment rate has held steady at 3.9 percent—the lowest in more than 30 years, and half of what it was in 1992.

The drop in Hispanic unemployment over the last 8 years has been just as spectacular. Hispanic unemployment is at an all-time low of 5 percent, down from 11.8 percent in 1992. African-American unemployment remains at record lows. Wages and incomes for all Americans continue to rise across the board. More

than 22 million new jobs have been created since Vice President Gore and I came to office.

For nearly 8 years, Vice President Gore and I have worked to maintain a course of fiscal discipline that has helped lead to the longest economic expansion in American history and put America on course to pay down the debt by 2012. This commitment has had tangible results. More Americans are working hard, creating opportunity, and reaching their dreams than ever before. Let's stay on this course of fiscal discipline and ensure that our children and their children enjoy even greater economic prosperity.

Statement on Pipeline Safety *November 3, 2000*

Today my administration is taking significant steps to ensure the safety of Americans living and working near the more than 2 million miles of oil and gas pipeline that crisscross our country. These pipelines are vital to our economy and our daily lives. But when they fail, they can damage the environment, contaminate our drinking water, threaten the safety of our communities, and put human lives at risk. Recent tragedies in Bellingham, Washington, and near Carlsbad, New Mexico, have underscored the need to improve pipeline safety nationwide.

Despite efforts in both the House and the Senate, there has been no final action this year on legislation to improve pipeline safety. Consequently, we are taking two actions today to

strengthen protections for communities across the country. First, the Department of Transportation is issuing strong new requirements for large hazardous liquid pipeline operators to regularly inspect and promptly repair pipelines in populated and environmentally sensitive areas and to take systematic steps to detect and prevent leaks. Second, I am directing the Secretary of Transportation to take additional steps leading to stronger pipeline safety standards, improved enforcement, enhanced Federal-State partnerships, increased public access to information, and more innovative technology. Together, these actions will help ensure that our pipeline system is sound, our communities are safe, and our environment is protected.