

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:08 p.m. in Moody Coliseum at Southern Methodist University. In his remarks, he referred to senatorial candidate John Cornyn; gubernatorial candidate Rick Perry and his wife, Anita; Carole Keeton Rylander, candidate for Texas comptroller; Jerry Patterson, candidate

for Texas land commissioner; Susan Combs, candidate for Texas agricultural commissioner; Michael Williams, candidate for Texas railroad commissioner; Jeb Hensarling, candidate for Texas' Fifth Congressional District; and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

Exchange With Reporters After Voting in Crawford, Texas November 5, 2002

2002 Elections

Q. Mr. President, what do you think the party's chances are today, sir? Are you feeling good about the election?

The President. I hope people vote. I'm encouraging all people across this country to vote.

[At this point, the President greeted other voters.]

25th Wedding Anniversary/First Lady's Birthday

The President. I'm not telling what I gave the First Lady for our 25th anniversary. [Laughter]

The First Lady. I'm telling. [Laughter]

Q. What about for her birthday?

The President. What?

Q. What about for her birthday?

The President. Not telling. [Laughter]
Let me just say that I remembered.

Q. Mr. President, do you think you're getting close to agreement on a U.N. resolution?

The First Lady. He did remember.

[The President greeted other voters.]

Q. Sir, what are you thinking about the Senate today? Have you got a chance?

The President. Thank you all.

NOTE: The exchange began at 8:10 a.m. outside the Crawford Fire House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Statement on Signing Legislation To Provide for Improvement of Federal Education Research, Statistics, Evaluation, Information, and Dissemination, and for Other Purposes November 5, 2002

Today I have signed into law H.R. 3801, an Act to provide for improvement of Federal education research, statistics, evaluation, information, and dissemination, and for other purposes. This Act will substantially strengthen the scientific basis for the Department of Education's continuing efforts to help families, schools, and State

and local governments with the education of America's children. This Act is an important complement to the No Child Left Behind Act enacted earlier this year.

The executive branch shall construe sections 115, 116(f), 117(d), 119, 156(b), and 186 of the Act in a manner consistent with the President's constitutional authority to

supervise the unitary executive branch and shall construe section 116(f) in a manner consistent with the President's authority under the Recommendations Clause of the Constitution to submit for the consideration of the Congress such measures as the President shall judge necessary or expedient. Also, in accordance with the President's constitutional power to select individuals for nomination, the executive branch shall construe section 116(c)(2) as advisory only. In addition, the Director of the Institute of Education Sciences shall implement section 186(a) of the Act subject to the supervision and direction of the Secretary of Education. Finally, the executive branch shall construe section 156(b) regarding the furnishing of compilations or surveys in a manner consistent with the principles enunciated by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1983 in *INS v. Chadha*, which do not permit the Congress by law to authorize a congressional committee to direct an executive branch entity to create a compilation or survey.

The executive branch shall construe provisions of the Act that require taking ac-

count of race, culture, gender, age, region, socioeconomics, ideology, secularity and partisan politics, including sections 111(b)(2)(B), 114(f)(7) and (8), 115(a)(1), 116(b)(8) and (10), 133(c)(7), and 151(b)(3), in a manner consistent with First Amendment freedoms and the requirements of equal protection and due process under the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment.

The executive branch shall construe section 174 and title II of the Act as imposing duties on a State or its officials only when the duties are a condition of a Federal grant or contract accepted by or under the authority of a State, as is consistent with the principles governing Federal-State relations enunciated by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1997 in *Printz v. United States*.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
November 5, 2002.

NOTE: H.R. 3801, approved November 5, was assigned Public Law No. 107-279.

Message on the Observance of Ramadan November 5, 2002

I send greetings to Muslims in the United States and around the world as you observe the holy month of Ramadan.

Islam is a peace-loving faith that is practiced by more than one billion people, including millions of American Muslims. These proud citizens contribute to the diversity that makes our country strong, and the United States is grateful for the friendship and support of many Muslim Nations that are vital partners in the global coalition to fight against terrorism.

The Qur'an teaches that Ramadan is a time for fasting, prayer, worship, and contemplation. Muslims observe this month by

renewing their dedication to caring for those in need, doing good deeds, and strengthening family and community ties. These actions reflect many of the values that Muslims share with people of other faiths across our Nation and around the world, including courage, compassion, and service.

America remains committed to freedom, justice, and opportunity for all people. During this season of reverence and examination, we continue to work together for a future of peace, tolerance, and understanding. Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for a blessed time. May you