

recession. Under my budget, discretionary Federal spending will rise by 4 percent, about the same as the increase in family incomes. Government should not grow faster than workers' paychecks. Government should follow the example of American families by setting priorities and staying with them.

In this session of Congress, we must work to make our Nation safer, more prosperous, and more compassionate. I look forward to working with the Republicans and Democrats in this important year for

America and the world. Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 12:03 p.m. on January 24 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on January 25. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 24 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

## Remarks Following a Cabinet Meeting January 28, 2003

*The President.* Thank you for coming. I'm going to make a quick statement, and then I will ask you all to leave without any questions.

Q. With questions?

*The President.* No, without any questions. I appreciate your understanding.

First, I want to welcome Tom Ridge, newly confirmed member of my Cabinet. I appreciate the Senate moving quickly. I asked the Senate to move quickly on the nomination of John Snow as well. He's having his hearing today. They'll find that John is a very capable, smart person who will do a fine job as the Secretary of Treasury. I look forward to having him join us here at this table.

Tonight I'm going in front of our Nation to talk about the great challenges that face our country, but no doubt that we'll be able to handle those challenges because we are a great country. I'll talk about our deep desire for peace, peace not only here at home but peace in troubled regions of the world. I'll talk about our plan to spread

prosperity throughout America. I'll talk about the need to have a health care system that is modern and sensitive to the needs of our seniors.

I'll talk about a lot of issues, but as I do so, I'm going to remind the American people that solutions to some of the seemingly intractable problems lay in the hearts and souls of our fellow citizens; that not only are we a strong nation, I will say, but that we're a compassionate nation, and when we find hurt and people who need healing, that our fellow citizens can provide the love necessary to help a citizen realize the full potential of this country.

I look forward to giving this speech. It is a moment where I will rally the American people to some great causes and remind them that we'll accomplish those causes together.

Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:54 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House.