

Statement on House of Representatives Passage of Child Interstate Abortion Notification Legislation

April 27, 2005

I commend the House for its bipartisan vote to protect the health and safety of minors by ensuring that State parental involvement laws are not circumvented. The parents of pregnant minors can provide counsel, guidance, and support to their

children and should be involved in these decisions. I urge the Senate to pass this important legislation and help continue to build a culture of life in America.

NOTE: The statement referred to H.R. 748.

Statement on the Iraqi Transitional National Assembly's Vote To Confirm Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jafari and His Cabinet

April 28, 2005

Iraq's Transitional National Assembly has voted by an overwhelming margin to confirm Ibrahim al-Jafari as Iraq's next Prime Minister. They also have approved a list of Cabinet ministers who will represent the unity and diversity of Iraq in the months ahead. I join with all Americans in congratulating Iraq's new leaders and in wishing them well as they begin to serve their country in this new Government. I appreciate the dedicated work of the outgoing Interim Government, which has governed Iraq for the last 10 months.

The Iraqi Transitional Government will confront important challenges in fighting terrorists and enemies of democracy, training the Iraqi security forces, and providing basic services to its citizens. It will also lead the difficult and essential work of drafting a new constitution for a free and democratic Iraq. The United States is confident that the new Government will meet these challenges in the months ahead, and America will stand by Iraq, its leaders, and the Iraqi people as they continue their work to establish a stable, peaceful, and democratic Iraq.

Statement on House of Representatives Passage of a Budget Framework Resolution

April 28, 2005

I applaud the House for passing a budget framework that protects America, helps economic growth, funds our priorities, and keeps us on track to cut the deficit in half by 2009. This is a responsible budget that reins in spending to limits not seen in years. I appreciate the Members of Con-

gress in the House and the Senate who worked hard to produce this agreement and who support its passage. It is not the Government's money that gets spent in Washington, DC. It is the people's money, and taxpayer dollars must be spent wisely or not spent at all.