

in saying, "I want a chance to watch my money grow over the next 30 or 40 years," money that will be a part of a retirement account.

And so my job is to keep talking, assuring seniors that you're going to get your check. I hope your neighborhood is listening. Because they're going to get their check. And your grandson, obviously, is listening because he understands he isn't going to get one—[laughter]—unless the Federal Government stops playing party politics and focuses on the good of the United States of America. That's what we're here to talk about.

I want to thank again—I want to thank the Chamber for giving us a chance to come by and say hello. I am so grateful that we had a chance to explain to the good folks of Atlanta and whoever else is listening that there's a really interesting opportunity for seniors when it comes to good health care through Medicare. And there's an opportunity for those of us who have entered politics to solve problems, to do so when it comes to Social Security. These are important issues for today's seniors, and they're important issues for people who are going to retire.

In other words, this is a generational issue. Social Security is a generational issue. And again, I repeat, I want the youngsters who are paying attention to this to understand the consequences of inactivity. And if you see inactivity, I would strongly urge you to get involved in the system and let people know that you're not happy with

what's going on. It's time for us to address this problem head on.

We're in the process of making changes in Medicare. If you want to be involved, please do so. Call 1-800-MEDICARE. Find out if the program is right for your grandmother or grandfather, your mom or dad. If you're running a community-based program, call 1-800-MEDICARE and find out how we can get materials to you. If you're interested in your church or your synagogue or your mosque or your religious organization and you want to help the seniors who attend there, find out what we're talking about. Just take a look at the brochures—it won't take long—and then give somebody some good advice. Say, "Here are the options. It's your choice to make." I think you're going to find this to be a really exciting way to help our seniors get a modernized health care system.

Thank you all for letting us come by. May God bless you all, and may God continue to bless our country.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:58 a.m. at the Boisfeuillet Jones Atlanta Civic Center. In his remarks, he referred to Thomas D. Bell, Jr., chairman of the board of directors, and Sam A. Williams, president, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce; Gov. Sonny Perdue of Georgia and his wife, Mary; James W. Wagner, president, Emory University; and Robert C. Pozen, former member, President's Commission to Strengthen Social Security.

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting Budget Amendments

July 22, 2005

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed FY 2006 budget amendments for the Department of Homeland Security. These

proposals support the Department's organizational restructuring plan, which Secretary Chertoff transmitted to the Congress on July 13. Overall, the discretionary budget

authority proposed in my FY 2006 Budget would not be increased by this reorganization proposal.

The details of these proposals are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this letter.

The President's Radio Address *July 23, 2005*

Good morning. Under the Constitution, one of the most consequential decisions a President makes is an appointment to the Supreme Court. This week I was proud to announce my nomination of Judge John Roberts to be the Supreme Court's next Associate Justice.

Judge Roberts has a stellar record of achievement. He is a man of sound judgment and the highest integrity. He has the qualities Americans expect in a judge, experience, wisdom, fairness, and civility. He has profound respect for the rule of law and for the liberties guaranteed to every citizen. He will strictly apply the Constitution and laws, not legislate from the bench.

Judge Roberts currently serves on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, which is often considered America's second highest court. He has also served as a top lawyer at the Department of Justice, an attorney in the White House for President Ronald Reagan, and a distinguished advocate in private practice. He gained early experience at the Supreme Court as a law clerk to Justice William Rehnquist. He graduated with high honors from both Harvard College and Harvard Law School. And as a young man growing up in Indiana, he captained his high school football team and worked summers in a steel mill to earn money for college.

One of the highest honors for any lawyer is to argue a case before the Supreme

Court. In his extraordinary career, Judge Roberts has argued a remarkable 39 cases before the Nation's highest court. He is known by Democrats and Republicans alike as a brilliant thinker, a fair-minded judge, and a decent man. After I nominated Judge Roberts to the Court of Appeals in 2001, a bipartisan group of more than 150 lawyers sent a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee, and here is what they wrote: "Although as individuals we reflect a wide spectrum of political party affiliation and ideology, we are united in our belief that John Roberts will be an outstanding Federal appeals court judge and should be confirmed by the United States Senate. He is one of the very best and most highly respected appellate lawyers in the Nation."

The next step for Judge Roberts is the Senate confirmation process. The process is off to a good start. Since I announced his nomination, Judge Roberts has met with a number of Senators from both parties. Democrats and Republicans have expressed their respect for Judge Roberts's qualifications and intellect, just as they did 2 years ago when they confirmed him to be a Federal appeals court judge by unanimous consent.

In the weeks ahead, the Senate will have an opportunity to rise above partisanship. I've spoken to Senate Majority Leader Frist and Minority Leader Reid as well as chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, Senators Specter and Leahy.