

bring greater transparency to the budget process.

Forty-three Governors have a line-item veto, and we need similar authority at the Federal level to control spending. Working with Congress, this tool can be used to help reduce the budget deficit and discourage the practice of earmarking Federal

funds for projects that are wasteful, duplicative, or unnecessary. I urge the Senate to also pass the line-item veto legislation, so Congress and my administration can begin using this important tool to help enforce fiscal discipline.

NOTE: The statement referred to H.R. 4890.

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to the Western Balkans

June 22, 2006

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the Western Balkans emergency is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2006. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on June 24, 2005, 70 *FR* 36803.

The crisis constituted by the actions of persons engaged in, or assisting, sponsoring, or supporting (i) extremist violence in the Republic of Macedonia, and elsewhere in the Western Balkans region, or (ii) acts obstructing implementation of the Dayton Accords in Bosnia or United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 of June 10, 1999, in Kosovo, that led to the declaration of a national emergency on June 26, 2001, in Executive Order 13219 has not been re-

solved. Subsequent to the declaration of the national emergency, I amended Executive Order 13219 in Executive Order 13304 of May 28, 2003, to address acts obstructing implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 2001 in the Republic of Macedonia, which have also become a concern. The acts of extremist violence and obstructionist activity outlined in Executive Order 13219, as amended, are hostile to U.S. interests and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to the Western Balkans and maintain in force the comprehensive sanctions to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
June 22, 2006.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on June 23. The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks at Opening Day of 2006 White House Tee-Ball June 23, 2006

The President. Seth, thank you very much. Good job. Welcome to the South Lawn. Laura and I are thrilled you're here for opening day. It is an honor for me and the commissioner, General Pete Pace, to welcome you all here for what is going to be an exciting ball game between the Yankees from McGuire Air Force Base—[*applause*]*—yes, right from New Jersey. Welcome. Glad you all are here. And they're going to be playing the Dolcom Little League Indians from Groton, Connecticut, representing the Naval Submarine Base of New London. Thank you all for coming. Welcome.*

We want to welcome the coaches and the players. We want to welcome the moms and dads and grandparents here to this historic ballpark. And we're glad you're here to help us kick off the 2006 Tee-Ball on the South Lawn season. General Pace and I expect there to be some pretty good competition today.

I do want to welcome the mayor of Groton, Connecticut, Mayor Harry Watson. Mr. Mayor, thank you for coming; proud you're here. Thanks for serving. Thanks for joining us. I welcome Captain Sean Sullivan, who will be the first base coach. Captain, thanks for serving. Proud you're here. Good luck. You've got some awesome duties today. And Colonel Rick Martin from McGuire, good to see you, Colonel. Thanks for coming, Colonel. Proud you're here.

We're proud to welcome Steve Keener, who is the president and CEO of Little League International, and his wife, Cheryl. Steve, thanks for coming back. Thanks for helping. For those of you who want to be a Major League player, Mike O'Connor is with us, from the mighty Washington Nationals. Mike, thank you for coming, buddy. Mike is a pitcher for the Nationals. Glad you're here, Mike. We welcome Seth Fallon. We just heard from Seth. Thanks.

And I want to thank the Navy Sea Cadets Corps, who happen to be the color guard.

Zane Ellingwood is about to put the first ball on the first tee for the first game. But not quite yet. I do want to welcome Tim Brant. Where are you, Tim? There he is. Tim, thanks for coming, buddy.

Announcer Tim Brant. Thank you, pal.

The President. A national baseball announcer here to call opening day. We really appreciate you coming. Thanks.

And finally, I do want to welcome representatives from the Armed Forces Foundation, the Fisher House, and our military kids. Thank you for serving our families. After the game, it's my honor to be able to present the balls to each of the players on the team. And I will also be able to welcome Dave Erbe, who is a youth volunteer. He volunteers to help the wounded and injury—military personnel at Walter Reed. David, thank you in advance for doing what you're doing. Thanks for serving your generation and our country. You're a good man.

And now, before we put the first ball on the tee, I do want you to join me in the Little League Pledge. Are you ready? All players ready? Doesn't look like it. [*Laughter*] Are you ready?

[*At this point, the pledge was recited.*]

The President. Play ball.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:05 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Seth Fallon, member, Maryland State Boychoir, who sang the national anthem; Gen. Peter Pace, USMC, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, in his capacity as 2006 commissioner of White House tee-ball; Capt. Sean P. Sullivan, USN, commanding officer, Naval Submarine Base New London, who served as first base coach; Col. Frederick H. Martin, USAF, commander,