

Smith of New Jersey; Japan's Ambassador to the U.S. Ryozo Kato; and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of the First Lady, who

introduced the President. The Malaria Awareness Day proclamation of April 24 is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks Following a Meeting on Financial Literacy *April 25, 2007*

April is Financial Literacy Month, and so I've asked some of our Nation's most caring citizens to come and talk to us about how to develop and hone a strategy that will help more of our American citizens become financially literate. If you're not sure how interest works, it's hard to be a good homeowner. If you don't understand rates of return, it's hard to be a good investor. If you're not sure how money works, it will be missed opportunity for people from all walks of life.

It is in this country's interest that people in every neighborhood, from every background, understand the financial literacy world, understand what it means when people talks terms related to their money. The more financially literate our society is, the more hopeful our society becomes.

And ours is a great system. It is a system that means somebody can come to America or live in America with nothing and end up with a lot; a system where people can realize dreams and work hard and realize those dreams. But unless we have a financially literate society, not enough people

are going to be able to realize the great promise of America.

And so I want to thank the Secretary of Treasury and the Secretary of Education, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for agreeing to be a part of the committee to make sure the Federal effort toward financial literacy is well coordinated with the private sector. And I thank those from the private sector for joining us. We've got people from corporate America, we've got people from faith-based America, we've got people from community-based-program America. We've got people from all walks of life, all around the country, who are deeply concerned about making sure this country is as financially literate as possible, and I thank you for coming. I appreciate you joining us.

Mr. Secretary, thanks for chairing the project.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:10 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House.

Remarks Honoring the 2007 National and State Teachers of the Year *April 26, 2007*

She forgot to add, "and loves a teacher." [*Laughter*] I made a good move when I married a teacher, and Laura and I are honored to welcome you here to the Rose

Garden. Thanks for coming, and thanks for teaching.

This is a special day for all who care deeply about education, because we fully understand that without a good teacher, it's