

important ways it heeds my call to action of nearly 2 years ago to take steps to ensure the ongoing competitiveness of our Nation. Congress, however, still has more work to do to improve our Nation's competitiveness. In addition to giving priority to full ACI funding in this year's appropriations bills, I call on Congress to complete work on the remaining components of ACI, including modernizing and making permanent the research and development tax credit, authorizing the Adjunct Teacher Corps program, and increasing our ability to attract and retain the best and brightest high-skilled workers from around the world.

I thank members of both parties in Congress who worked on this legislation, and I appreciate the willingness of members to remove or otherwise address several of the administration's serious concerns associated with this legislation. I will continue to work with the Congress to ensure that we keep America competitive through appropriate and strong support for science and technology.

NOTE: H.R. 2272, approved August 9, was assigned Public Law No. 110-69.

Memorandum on Reimbursement for Former President Gerald R. Ford Funeral Expenses

August 9, 2007

Memorandum for the Director of the Office of Management and Budget

Subject: Reimbursement for Former President Gerald R. Ford Funeral Expenses

Pursuant to the authority vested in me as the President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States including Public Law 110-5, the Revised Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2007, I hereby authorize the expenditure from the appropriation, "Unanticipated Needs:"

To	Amount
Gerald R. Ford Foundation,	\$230,600.08
Executive Office of the President	
White House Office account,	\$24,808.00

To defray expenses incurred as a result of the funeral services for former President Gerald R. Ford.

I hereby determine that this expenditure is necessary to meet unanticipated needs in furtherance of the national interest.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting the District of Columbia's Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Request

August 9, 2007

Dear Madam Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Pursuant to my constitutional authority and as contemplated by section 446 of The District of Columbia Self-Governmental Reorganization Act as amended in 1989,

I am transmitting the District of Columbia's 2008 Budget Request Act. This transmittal does not represent an endorsement of the contents of the D.C. government's requests.

The proposed 2008 Budget Request Act reflects the major programmatic objectives

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of the Mayor and the Council of the District of Columbia. For 2008, the District estimates total revenues and expenditures of \$8.38 billion.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate.

Statement on Improving Border Security and Immigration Within Existing Law

August 10, 2007

Today members of my Cabinet announced a series of important new administrative actions to address border security and immigration challenges. These reforms represent steps my administration can take within the boundaries of existing law to better secure our borders, improve worksite enforcement, streamline existing temporary-worker programs, and help new immigrants assimilate into American society.

Although the Congress has not addressed our broken immigration system by passing comprehensive reform legislation, my administration will continue to take every pos-

sible step to build upon the progress already made in strengthening our borders, enforcing our worksite laws, keeping our economy well-supplied with vital workers, and helping new Americans learn English.

I appreciate the work of Secretary Chertoff and Secretary Gutierrez in implementing these important reforms, which will improve our security and enrich our Nation.

NOTE: The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language version of this statement.

The President's Radio Address

August 11, 2007

Good morning. In America, August is considered a slow news month. But in the war on terror, America and our allies remain on the offense against our enemies. And this month, we've had some encouraging news from both Afghanistan and Iraq.

Earlier this week, I had a good meeting with President Karzai of Afghanistan at Camp David. He updated me on the work his Government is doing to help build a more hopeful future for the Afghan people. He told me that senior officials and tribal leaders from Afghanistan and Pakistan are meeting to discuss how to deal with the

extremists who are targeting both their countries. And he explained why he's confident that his Government will prevail against the Taliban remnants who continue to launch attacks throughout his country.

Here's how President Karzai put it: "The Taliban do pose dangers to our innocent people. [But] they are not posing any threat to the Government of Afghanistan; they are not posing any threat to the institutions of Afghanistan or to the buildup of institutions of Afghanistan." He continued: The Taliban "is a force that's defeated," and it is "acting in cowardice by killing children