

that I can sign, so we can keep this important program serving America's poor children.

When it comes to SCHIP, we should be guided by a clear principle: Put poor children first. I urge Republicans and Democrats in Congress to support a bill that moves adults off this children's program and covers children who do not qualify for Medicaid, but whose families are struggling. If putting poor children first takes a little more than the 20-percent increase I have proposed in my budget for SCHIP, I am willing to work with leaders in Congress to find the additional money.

Ultimately, our Nation's goal should be to move children who have no health insurance to private coverage, not to move children who already have private health insurance to Government coverage. By working

together, Republicans and Democrats can strengthen SCHIP, ensure that it reaches the children who need it, and find ways to help more American families get the private health coverage they need.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 7:50 a.m. on October 5 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on October 6. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 5, but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. In his address, the President referred to H.R. 976, the "Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007." The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

## Statement on the Death of Representative Jo Ann Davis *October 6, 2007*

Laura and I are deeply saddened that Representative Jo Ann Davis lost her courageous battle with breast cancer today. Her determination to fight the disease is an inspiration to all of us.

Over the course of her four terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, she was an effective advocate for the people of her district and a strong supporter of our men and women in uniform. She was a fine

example of a public servant who worked hard to cut Government waste to ensure the people's money was used wisely. Her commonsense values will be missed on Capitol Hill.

Laura and I send our thoughts and prayers to her husband Chuck, their two sons, and the rest of the Davis family during this difficult time.

## Remarks at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland *October 7, 2007*

Thank you all. Thank you. Please be seated. Thanks for the warm welcome. David, thank you very much for your introduction. Nothing better than being introduced by

an old fire chief. And I thank you for your service, Dave.

It is such an honor to be here. I was telling Laura on the phone—she didn't make it, and I apologize, and so does she—