

Statement on Signing the Military Spouses Residency Relief Act November 11, 2009

Today I have signed into law S. 475, the “Military Spouses Residency Relief Act”. This Act, among other things, would provide that when a service member leaves his or her home State in accord with military or naval orders, the service member’s spouse may retain residency in his or her home State for voting and tax purposes, after relocating from that State to accompany the service member.

When the military orders service members to move, spouses who move with them often have to pay taxes in a new State or locality and lose the right to vote in the place considered to be home. This legislation will alleviate these and other burdens on our military families. As the

Congress has recognized, and as the legislative history reflects, this legislation is an important means of maintaining the morale and readiness of our Armed Forces and significantly enhances the ability of our military to effectively recruit and retain these highly valued service personnel.

BARACK OBAMA

The White House,
November 11, 2009.

NOTE: S. 475, approved November 11, was assigned Public Law No. 111–97.

Memorandum on Inventory of Files Related to Fort Hood Shooting November 10, 2009

Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: Inventory of Files Related to Fort Hood Shooting

On November 6, 2009, I directed that an immediate inventory be conducted of all intelligence in U.S. Government files that existed prior to November 6, 2009, relevant to the tragic shooting at Fort Hood, Texas, especially anything having to do with the alleged shooter, Major Nidal Malik Hasan, U.S. Army. In addition, I directed an immediate review be initiated to determine how any such intelligence was handled, shared, and acted upon within individual departments and agencies and what intelligence

was shared with others. This inventory and review shall be conducted in a manner that does not interfere with the ongoing criminal investigations of the Fort Hood shooting.

The results of this inventory and review, as well as any recommendations for improvements to procedures and practices, shall be provided to John Brennan, Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism, who will serve as the principal point of contact on this matter for the White House. Preliminary results of this review shall be provided by November 30, 2009.

BARACK OBAMA

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 12.

Remarks on the National Economy November 12, 2009

Good morning, everybody. Before departing for Asia this morning, I’d like to make a brief statement about the economy. Over the past 10 months, we’ve taken a number of bold steps to break the back of this recession. We’ve worked

to stabilize the financial system, revive lending to small businesses and families, and prevent responsible homeowners from losing their homes. And through the Recovery Act, we’ve cut taxes for middle class families, extended and