

lines carrying American goods and services around the world. It's the spirit that has advanced America's leadership in the world and held aloft the American Dream for generations. And it is ultimately that spirit that's given us the tools and the toughness to overcome every obstacle and adapt to every circumstance, and to-day is no different.

It hasn't always been easy. Our success is by no means guaranteed. But if we summon a sense of national purpose equal to the seriousness of these times, if we combine our creativity, our innovation, and our eternal optimism, if we come together in common cause as we have so many times before, we will succeed, we will define our destiny once again, and we will make this century another American century, with your help.

Statement on Immigration Reform *March 11, 2010*

Today I met with Senators Schumer and Graham and was pleased to learn of their progress in forging a proposal to fix our broken immigration system. I look forward to reviewing their promising framework, and every American should applaud their efforts to reach across party lines and find commonsense answers to one of our most vexing problems. I also heard from a diverse group of grassroots leaders from

Thank you very much, everybody. God bless you. God bless the United States of America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:30 a.m. at the Omni Shoreham Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to John W. Baumstark, chief executive officer and chairman of the board of directors, Suniva Inc., and recipient of the Export-Import Bank's Renewable Energy Exporter of the Year award; Fabienne Demol, North American representative, EDF Energies Nouvelles, and recipient of the Export-Import Bank's Deal of the Year award; Luis Arguello, Sr., president and chief executive officer, DemeTech Corporation, and recipient of the Export-Import Bank's Small Business Exporter of the Year award; and Secretary-General Angel Gurría of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

around the country about the growing coalition that is working to build momentum for this critical issue. I am optimistic that their efforts will contribute to a favorable climate for moving forward. I told both the Senators and the community leaders that my commitment to comprehensive immigration reform is unwavering, and that I will continue to be their partner in this important effort.

The President's Weekly Address *March 13, 2010*

Lost in the news of last week was a headline that ought to be a source of concern for every American. It said, "Many Nations Passing U.S. in Education." Now, debates in Washington tend to be consumed with the politics of the moment: who's up in the daily polls; whose party stands to gain in November. But what matters to you, what matters to our country, is not what happens in the next election, but what we do to lift up the next generation. And the fact is, there are few issues that speak more directly to our long-term success as a nation than issues

concerning the education we provide to our children.

Our prosperity in the 20th century was fueled by an education system that helped grow the middle class and unleash the talents of our people more fully and widely than at any time in our history. We built schools and focused on the teaching of math and science. We helped a generation of veterans go to college through the GI bill. We led the globe in producing college graduates, and in turn, we led in producing groundbreaking technologies and scientific dis-