

thing to do for our workers and for our companies. I believe that investing in a clean energy economy to create good jobs of the future, building pipe for natural gas, but also building windmills and steel—and turbines and advanced batteries for the new generation of electric cars, that's the right thing to do for our economy and for our environment. I believe that raising standards in our schools and making college more affordable and upgrading our community colleges is the right thing to do so that every child has a chance to live out their dreams. I believe that reforming our health care system to crack down on the worst practices of the insurance companies and giving everybody a decent shot at getting health insurance is the right thing to do. And trying to control costs on premiums is the right thing to do. It's the right

thing to do for families, and it's the right thing to do for businesses.

So we're going to keep up every effort to rebuild our economy and restore some security for the middle class, a middle class forged in plants just like this one, so that places like Youngstown don't just survive year after year, but they are thriving year after year. And as long as I have the privilege of being your President, I'm going to keep fighting for a future that is brighter for this community and for Ohio and for the United States of America, the country that we love.

God bless you. God bless all the work here. God bless the United States of America. Appreciate you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:30 p.m.

Statement on Senate Action on Oil Pollution Liability Legislation *May 18, 2010*

I am disappointed that an effort to ensure that oil companies pay fully for disasters they cause has stalled in the United States Senate on a partisan basis. This maneuver threatens to leave taxpayers, rather than the oil companies,

on the hook for future disasters like the BP oil spill. I urge the Senate Republicans to stop playing special interest politics and join in a bipartisan effort to protect taxpayers and demand accountability from the oil companies.

Statement on Haitian Flag Day *May 18, 2010*

On behalf of the American people, I send my congratulations to all those who celebrate Haitian Flag Day here in America, in Haiti, and around the world. Over 200 years ago, freedmen from what is now the Republic of Haiti came to the aid of American patriots fighting for freedom at the Siege of Savannah. Then, in 1803, Haiti declared their independence, and this day celebrates the flying of that first Haitian flag. The bonds between our nations have been strong and vibrant since that day.

But as we observe this day of celebration, let us also remember the ongoing efforts in Haiti to rebuild and recover from that tragic earthquake. We stand with the international community in our support for the Government of Haiti and the Haitian people as they continue to create a foundation for a brighter future. On this Haitian Flag Day, the people of Haiti should remember that they have a friend and partner in America.