

All right? Thank you so much, everybody. It was great spending time with you. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:09 a.m. at the residence of Andy and Etta Cavalier. In his re-

marks, he referred to Mayor Han Zheng of Shanghai, China; President Lee Myung-bak of South Korea; Matt Lauer, coanchor, NBC's "Today" program; Sens. George S. LeMieux and George V. Voinovich; and House Republican Leader John A. Boehner.

## Statement on Gulf Coast Recovery and Restoration Efforts September 28, 2010

I appreciate the hard work, led by Navy Secretary Ray Mabus, to develop this recovery and restoration plan for the Gulf Coast. The BP oil spill has created significant environmental and economic challenges for the region. My administration is committed to working with the people of the Gulf to help them restore the ecosystems that support them, rebuild their livelihoods, and safeguard their health and safety.

The Mabus report offers a commonsense proposal for a path forward, relying on the ideas and coordination of efforts at the local, State, tribal, and Federal levels, as well as of nonprofits and the private sector. I will ask Congress to provide dedicated resources to bolster the re-

covery effort, but we will not allow the recovery to wait for congressional action. I have asked EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson to lead a task force that will coordinate efforts to create healthier, more resilient ecosystems, while also encouraging economic recovery and long-term health issues. In the Gulf, the economy and the environment are locked intrinsically together.

We recognize that the recovery effort will take new thinking, cooperation, and creativity. But most of all, it will take time. In the days ahead, we will stand with the people of the Gulf to help restore, rehabilitate, and revitalize the region. And together, we will finish the job.

## Remarks at a Democratic National Committee Rally in Madison, Wisconsin September 28, 2010

*The President.* Hello, Wisconsin! Thank you. Thank you so much. I am—I don't know about you, but I'm fired up.

*Audience member.* Ready to go!

*The President.* And ready to go.

A couple of people I want to acknowledge. First of all, a great mayor, somebody who's fighting for working families each and every day, Tom Barrett. Please give him a big round of applause.

Somebody who is one of the consciences of the Senate, who's always independent, doesn't always agree with me, but always agrees with the people of his State and looking out for them, Senator Russ Feingold; one of the most courageous Members of Congress that we have, Tammy Baldwin in the house.

I want to thank Madison Mayor Dave Cieslewicz—doing a great job. University of Wisconsin System President Kevin Reilly is here; University of Wisconsin—Madison Chancellor Biddy Martin is in the house.

And I want to thank our terrific musical guests, Ben Harper, The National, and Mama Digdown's Brass Band.

It is good to be back in the State of Wisconsin. I was mentioning that when I first moved to Chicago—[*applause*]  
—I know we've got some Chicago folks in the house—[*applause*]  
—you know, every once in a while, I had some friends who were going to school up here, and I'd drive up to Madison. And I had some fun times up here in Madison. I can't give you all the details—[*laughter*]  
—but I have good memories here.