

political credit, but it's just the right thing to do. And I couldn't be prouder of you.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:34 p.m. in the South Court Auditorium of the Dwight D. Eisen-

hower Executive Office Building. In his remarks, he referred to Elouise C. Cobell, executive director, Native American Community Development Corporation. H.R. 4783, approved December 8, was assigned Public Law No. 111-291.

## Statement on Signing the Claims Resolution Act of 2010 *December 8, 2010*

Today I have signed into law H.R. 4783, the "Claims Resolution Act of 2010." This Act, among other things, provides funding and statutory authorities for the settlement agreements reached in the *Cobell* lawsuit, brought by Native Americans; the *Pigford II* lawsuit, brought by African American farmers; and four separate water rights suits, brought by Native American tribes. While I am pleased that this Act reflects important progress, much work remains to be done to address other claims of past discrimination made by women and Hispanic farmers against the Department of Agriculture as well as to address needs of tribal communities.

I am also pleased that the Act includes authorities proposed by my Administration concerning Unemployment Compensation program integrity, to expand the ability of the Federal Government to recover from individual income tax overpayments certain Unemployment

Compensation debts that are due to an individual's failure to report earnings. My Administration has been working to protect taxpayer funds through improved recovery of improper Federal payments, and the additional authorities in this Act will assist in that effort. In order to ensure that the intent and effect of these program integrity provisions are realized, my Administration is working with the Congress to correct an inadvertent technical drafting error in section 801(a)(3)(C), so that the provision can be implemented as intended.

BARACK OBAMA

The White House,  
December 8, 2010.

NOTE: H.R. 4783, approved December 8, was assigned Public Law No. 111-291.

## Statement on Senate Action on Legislation To Limit Cuts in Medicare Payments to Physicians *December 8, 2010*

I am pleased Democratic and Republican leaders in the Senate have agreed on legislation that will prevent a significant pay cut for doctors from taking effect and help ensure seniors on Medicare can continue to see the doctor they know and trust. I encourage Congress to act quickly on this proposal. This agreement is an important step forward to stabilize Medicare, but our work is far from finished. For too

long, we have confronted this reoccurring problem with temporary fixes and stopgap measures. It's time for a permanent solution that seniors and their doctors can depend on, and I look forward to working with Congress to address this matter once and for all in the coming year.

NOTE: The statement referred to H.R. 4994.

## Statement on House of Representatives Passage of Legislation Providing Citizenship Opportunities for Alien Minors

*December 8, 2010*

I congratulate the House of Representatives, Speaker Pelosi, Congressman Berman, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and other congressional leaders for taking the historic step of passing the “DREAM Act” today with a bipartisan vote. This vote is not only the right thing to do for a group of talented young people who seek to serve a country they know as their own by continuing their education or serving in the military, but it is the right thing for the United States of America. We are enriched by their talents, and the success of their efforts will contribute to our Nation’s success and security. And as the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office found, the “DREAM Act” would cut the deficit by \$2.2 billion over the next 10 years. I strongly urge the U.S. Senate to also pass the “DREAM Act” so that I can sign it into law as soon as possible.

This vote is a vitally important step to doing what the American people expect their policymakers to do: work together to address the Na-

tion’s most pressing problems. The “DREAM Act” corrects one of the most egregious flaws of a badly broken immigration system. A flaw that forces children who have grown up in America, who speak English, who have excelled in our communities as academics, athletes, or volunteers to put their lives and talent on hold at a great cost to themselves and our Nation.

I also congratulate the House for moving past the tired sound bites and false debates that have pushed immigration rhetoric into the extremes for far too long. The “DREAM Act” is not amnesty, it’s about accountability and about tapping into a pool of talent we’ve already invested in. The “DREAM Act” is a piece of a larger debate that is needed to restore responsibility and accountability to our broken immigration system broadly. My administration will continue to do everything we can to move forward on immigration reform; today’s House vote is an important step in this vital effort.

## Remarks Prior to a Meeting With the President’s Export Council

*December 9, 2010*

Everybody have a seat, have a seat. Well, good morning, everybody. And thank you for once again coming together to help us figure out how we’re going to sell a lot of stuff all around the world.

I want to thank Secretary Locke and members of my Cabinet and administration. I want to thank the Members of Congress who are here. And I want to thank Jim and Ursula, the Chair and Vice Chairs of the President’s Export Council, and all the other members here today for your extraordinary work.

Now, everyone in this room is committed to promoting a strong and growing economy, one that’s creating jobs, fostering a thriving middle class, and extending opportunity for all who are willing to work for it.

And as we meet here, there is an important debate I think most of you are aware of on Cap-

itol Hill that will determine, in part, whether our economy moves forward or backward. The bipartisan framework that we’ve forged on taxes will not only protect working Americans from seeing a major tax increase on January 1, it will provide businesses incentives to invest, grow, and hire. And every economist that I’ve talked to or that I’ve read over the last couple of days acknowledges that this agreement would boost economic growth in the coming years and has the potential to create millions of jobs. The average American family will start 2011 knowing that there will be more money to pay the bills each month, more money to pay for tuition, more money to raise their children.

But if this framework fails, the reverse is true. Americans would see it in smaller paychecks that would have the effect of fewer jobs. So as we meet here today to talk about one