

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:53 a.m. In his remarks, he referred to Paul S. Otellini, president and chief executive officer, Intel

Corp.; and Gov. John A. Kitzhaber of Oregon. He also referred to his brother-in-law Craig M. Robinson.

## Statement on the Situation in the Middle East *February 18, 2011*

I am deeply concerned by reports of violence in Bahrain, Libya, and Yemen. The United States condemns the use of violence by governments against peaceful protesters in those countries and wherever else it may occur. We express our condolences to the family and friends of those who have been killed during

the demonstrations. Wherever they are, people have certain universal rights, including the right to peaceful assembly. The United States urges the governments of Bahrain, Libya, and Yemen to show restraint in responding to peaceful protests and to respect the rights of their people.

## Statement on Senator Jesse F. “Jeff” Bingaman, Jr.’s Decision Not To Seek Reelection *February 18, 2011*

From his time in the Army to his service as New Mexico’s attorney general and senior Senator, Jeff Bingaman has served this country and the people of New Mexico for more than three decades. He has been a tireless advocate for preserving America’s natural resources and promoting a clean energy future. Jeff has

gained the respect of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle in New Mexico and in Washington, and his voice on the floor of the Senate will be missed. Michelle and I offer Jeff our best wishes and deepest appreciation for his lifetime of service.

## The President’s Weekly Address *February 19, 2011*

I’m speaking to you from just outside Portland, Oregon, where I’m visiting Intel, a company that helped pioneer the digital age. I just came from a tour of an assembly line where highly skilled technicians are building microprocessors that run everything from desktop computers to smartphones.

But these workers aren’t just manufacturing high-tech computer chips, they’re showing us how America will win the future. For decades, Intel has led the world in developing new technologies. But even as global competition has intensified, this company has invested, built, and hired right here in America. Three-quarters of Intel’s products are made by American workers. And as the company expands operations in Oregon and builds a new plant in Ari-

zona, it plans to hire another 4,000 people this year.

Companies like Intel are proving that we can compete, that instead of just being a nation that buys what’s made overseas, we can make things in America and sell them around the globe. Winning this competition depends on the ingenuity and creativity of our private sector, which was on display in my visit today. But it’s also going to depend on what we do as a nation to make America the best place on Earth to do business.

Over the next 10 years, nearly half of all new jobs will require education beyond high school, many requiring proficiency in math and science. And yet today, we’ve fallen behind in math and in science and in graduation rates. As a result,

companies like Intel struggle to hire American workers with the skills that fit their needs.

If we want to win the global competition for new jobs and industries, we've got to win the global competition to educate our people. We've got to have the best trained, best skilled workforce in the world. That's how we'll ensure that the next Intel, the next Google, or the next Microsoft is created in America and hires American workers.

This is why, over the past 2 years, my administration has made education a top priority. We've launched a competition called Race to the Top, a reform that's lifting academic standards and getting results, not because Washington dictated the answers, but because States and local schools pursued innovative solutions. We're also making college more affordable for millions of students and revitalizing our community colleges so that folks can get the training they need for the careers they want. And as part of this effort, we've launched a nationwide initiative to connect graduates that need jobs with businesses that need their skills.

Intel understands how important these partnerships can be, recognizing that their company's success depends on a pipeline of skilled people ready to fill high-wage, high-tech jobs. Intel often pays for workers to continue their education at nearby Portland State University. As a result, 1 out of every 15 of Intel's Oregon employees has a degree from Portland State.

In fact, Intel's commitment to education begins at an even younger age. The company is providing training to help a hundred thousand math and science teachers improve their skills in the classroom. And today I'm also meeting a few students from Oregon who impressed the judges in the high school science and engineering competitions that Intel sponsors across America.

One young woman, Laurie Rumker, conducted a chemistry experiment to investigate ways to protect our water from pollution. Another student, named Yushi Wang, applied the principles of quantum physics to design a faster computer chip. We're talking about high school students.

So these have been a tough few years for our country, and in tough times, it's natural to question what the future holds. But when you meet young people like Laurie and Yushi, it's hard not to be inspired. And it's impossible not to be confident about America.

We're poised to lead in this new century, and not just because of the good work that large companies like Intel are doing. Across America, there are innovators and entrepreneurs who are trying to start the next Intel or just get a small business of their own off the ground. I'll be meeting with some of these men and women next week in Cleveland to get ideas about what we can do to help their companies grow and create jobs.

The truth is, we have everything we need to compete: bold entrepreneurs, bright new ideas, and world-class colleges and universities. Most of all, we have young people just brimming with promise and ready to help us succeed. All we have to do is tap that potential. That's the lesson on display here at Intel, and that's how America will win the future.

Thanks so much.

NOTE: The address was recorded at approximately 11:05 a.m. on February 18 at Intel Corp. in Hillsboro, OR, for broadcast on February 19. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 18, but was embargoed for release until 6 a.m. on February 19.

## Remarks at the Opening Session of the Winning the Future Forum on Small Business in Cleveland, Ohio *February 22, 2011*

Thank you very much. Please, everybody have a seat. It is wonderful to be here, and I

just want to say thank you for our hosts at KSU for—or CSU, rather, excuse me, the—for their