

ourselves to ensuring that devastating events like these are never repeated. This is a contemporary cause that thousands of Armenian Americans have made their own.

The legacy of the Armenian people is one of resiliency, determination, and triumph over those who sought to destroy them. The United States has deeply benefited from the significant contributions to our Nation by Armenian Americans, many of whom are descended from the survivors of the *Medz Yeghern*. Americans

of Armenian descent have strengthened our society and our communities with their rich culture and traditions. The spirit of the Armenian people in the face of this tragic history serves as an inspiration for all those who seek a more peaceful and just world.

Our hearts and prayers are with Armenians everywhere as we recall the horrors of the *Medz Yeghern*, honor the memories of those who suffered, and pledge our friendship and deep respect for the people of Armenia.

## Remarks at the White House Easter Egg Roll

April 25, 2011

*The President.* Hello, everybody. I hope all of you had a wonderful Easter. I hope everybody is having a great time here. Welcome to the White House.

In addition to our outstanding Easter Bunny—

*Audience member.* [Inaudible]

*The President.* Hi!

I want to introduce somebody who is doing extraordinary work not only helping military

families, not only making sure that everybody is getting up and going, but is also keeping me in line, the First Lady of the United States, Michelle Obama.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:30 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of the First Lady.

## Letter to Congressional Leaders Regarding Oil Subsidies

April 26, 2011

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

I am writing to urge you to take immediate action to eliminate unwarranted tax breaks for the oil and gas industry, and to use those dollars to invest in clean energy to reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

High oil and gasoline prices are weighing on the minds and pocketbooks of every American family. While our economy has begun to recover, with 1.8 million private sector jobs created over the last 13 months, too many Americans are still struggling to find a job or simply just to pay the bills. The recent steep increase in gas prices, driven by increased global demand and compounded by unrest and supply disruptions in the Middle East, has only added to those struggles. If sustained, these high prices have the potential to slow down the pace of our

economy's growth at precisely the moment when we need to be accelerating it.

While there is no silver bullet to address rising gas prices in the short term, there are steps we can take to ensure the American people don't fall victim to skyrocketing gas prices over the long term. One of those steps is to eliminate unwarranted tax breaks to the oil and gas industry and invest that revenue into clean energy to reduce our dependence on foreign oil. Our outdated tax laws currently provide the oil and gas industry more than \$4 billion per year in these subsidies, even though oil prices are high and the industry is projected to report outsized profits this quarter. In fact, in the past CEO's of the major oil companies made it clear that high oil prices provide more than enough profit motive to invest in domestic exploration and production without special tax