

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency Regarding Export Control Regulations August 12, 2011

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice, stating that the emergen-

cy caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979, as amended, is to continue in effect for 1 year beyond August 17, 2011.

BARACK OBAMA

The White House,
August 12, 2011.

NOTE: The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

The President's Weekly Address August 13, 2011

On Thursday, I visited a new high-tech factory in Michigan where workers are helping America lead the way in a growing clean energy industry.

They were proud of their work, and they should be. They're not just showing us a path out of the worst recession in generations. They're proving that this is still a country where we make things; where new ideas take root and grow; where the best universities, most creative entrepreneurs, and most dynamic businesses in the world call home. They're proving that even in difficult times, there's not a country on Earth that wouldn't trade places with us.

That doesn't mean we don't face some very tough economic challenges. Many Americans are hurting badly right now. Many have been unemployed for too long. Putting these men and women back to work and growing wages for everybody has got to be our top priority.

But lately, the response from Washington has been partisanship and gridlock that's only undermined public confidence and hindered our efforts to grow the economy.

So while there's nothing wrong with our country, there is something wrong with our politics, and that's what we've got to fix. Be-

cause we know there are things Congress can do right now to get more money back in your pockets, get this economy growing faster, and get our friends and neighbors back to work.

That payroll tax cut that put \$1,000 back in the average family's pocket this year, let's extend it. Construction workers who've been jobless since the housing boom went bust, let's put them back to work rebuilding America. Let's cut redtape in the patent process so entrepreneurs can get good ideas to market more quickly. Let's finish trade deals so we can sell more American-made goods around the world. Let's connect the hundreds of thousands of brave Americans coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan to businesses that need their incredible skills and talents.

These are all things we can do right now. So let's do them. And over the coming weeks, I'll put forward more proposals to help our businesses hire and create jobs. And I won't stop until every American who wants a job can find one.

But we can't let partisan brinksmanship get in our way, the idea that making it through the next election is more important than making things right. That's what's holding us back, the

fact that some in Congress would rather see their opponents lose than see America win.

So you've got a right to be frustrated. I know I am. Because you deserve better. And I don't think it's too much for you to expect that the people you send to this town start delivering for you.

Members of Congress are at home in their districts right now. And if you agree with me, whether you're a Democrat or a Republican, or not much of a fan of either, let them know. If you've had it with gridlock and you want them to pass stalled bills that will help our economy right now, let them know. If you refuse to settle for a politics where scoring points is more important than solving problems, if you believe it's time to put country before party and the interests of our children before our own, then let them know.

And maybe they'll get back to Washington ready to compromise, ready to create jobs, ready to get our fiscal house in order, ready to do what you sent them here to do.

Yes, we've still got a long way to go to get to where we need to be. We didn't get into this mess overnight, and it's going to take some time to get out of it. That's a hard truth, but it's no excuse for inaction. After all, America voted for divided Government, not dysfunctional Government, and we've got work to do. And when we come together and find common ground, there is no stopping this country; there's no stopping our people; there's no holding us back. And there is every reason to believe we'll get through this storm to a brighter day.

Thanks for listening, and have a great weekend.

NOTE: The address was recorded at approximately 5 p.m. on August 12 in the Library at the White House for broadcast on August 13. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 12, but was embargoed for release until 6 a.m. on August 13.

Remarks at a Town Hall Meeting and a Question-and-Answer Session in Cannon Falls, Minnesota

August 15, 2011

The President. Hello, Cannon Falls! Hello, Minnesota! Oh, well, what a spectacular setting. Let's get the grill going.

Audience member. Fishing!

The President. And do a little fishing? Yeah? It is wonderful to see all of you here today. Thank you for showing up, and what an incredible setting. Everybody, feel free to have a seat; we're going to be here for a while. [Laughter]

A couple introductions I want to make real quick, although these folks don't need any introduction. The outstanding Governor of Minnesota Mark Dayton is in the house. Two of the finest Senators in the country, Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken are here; from your congressional delegation, Tim Walz, Keith Ellison. We've got the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack is here. And I want to thank the mayor of Cannon Falls, Minnesota,

for organizing perfect weather; Robby Robinson is here.

So I am very pleased to be out of Washington, and it is great to be here. What I'm going to do is I'm just going to say a few things at the top, and then what I want to do is just open it up for questions and comments, and I want to hear from you guys. That's the reason that we're on this bus tour.

Obviously, America has gone through extraordinary challenges over the last 2½ years. We've gone through the worst recession since the Great Depression, dating all the way back to 2007, 2008. But here's the interesting thing: If you ask people around the world, people would still tell you America has got the best universities, we've got the best scientists, we've got the best entrepreneurs, we've got so much going for us that folks would gladly trade places with us. Around the world, people still