

businesses don't see their taxes go up next year. It was the right thing to do. It will provide certainty and security to families who are already feeling pinched because of the economy. It will be good for the economy as a whole.

And now the only thing that is going to prevent the vast majority of Americans from not seeing a tax increase next year is if the House doesn't act. We need 218 votes in the House of Representatives—218 votes in the House of Representatives—to make sure that 98 percent of Americans don't see their taxes go up next year.

And so one of the things that I'm going to be doing, my Cabinet members are going to be doing, over the next several days is to make sure that the American people understand that we can provide them certainty right now for next year that their taxes will not go up, and they will then be able to plan accordingly. Small businesses will be able to plan accordingly, knowing that we've taken a whole bunch of uncertainty out of the economy at a time when the global economy is experiencing a number of disruptions.

## Remarks on Signing Legislation To Enhance Security Cooperation With Israel July 27, 2012

Hello, everybody. Hope you guys are all staying cool. Well, listen, I just wanted to welcome these outstanding leaders to the Oval Office. I want to in particular acknowledge Congressman Howard Berman and Senator Barbara Boxer, who have done outstanding work in shepherding through this bipartisan piece of legislation that underscores our unshakeable commitment to Israel.

As many of you know, I have made it a top priority for my administration to deepen cooperation with Israel across the whole spectrum of security issues: intelligence, military, technology. And in many ways, what this legislation does is bring together all the outstanding cooperation that we have seen, really, at an unpre-

cedented level between our two countries that underscore our unshakeable commitment to Israel's security.

So again, I would urge the House of Representatives to do the right thing. And I'm going to make sure that my Cabinet members amplify that message in the days to come.

Thank you very much, everybody.

### *Shootings in Aurora, Colorado*

Q. Mr. President, can you tell us, if what the Colorado shooter did was entirely legal, how do you do more on this subject without any new laws?

*The President.* Thank you very much. I'm sure we'll have more opportunity to talk about this.

Q. This afternoon is fine. I'm available.

*The President.* Thanks. I'll ask Jay for your number. [*Laughter*]

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:24 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to White House Press Secretary James F. "Jay" Carney. He also referred to S. 3412. A reporter referred to James E. Holmes, accused gunman in the July 20 shootings at the Century 16 multiplex in Aurora, CO. A portion of these remarks could not be verified because the audio was incomplete.

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\* White House correction.

our friends in Israel when it comes to these kinds of attacks.

Let me just close by saying that the tragic events that we saw in Bulgaria emphasize the degree to which this continues to be a challenge not just for Israel, but for the entire world—preventing terrorist attacks and making sure that the people of Israel are not targeted.

And I hope that, as I sign as this bill, once again, everybody understands how committed all of us are, Republicans and Democrats, as Americans, to our friends in making sure that Israel is safe and secure.

And Leon Panetta, our Secretary of Defense, will be traveling to Israel to further consult and find additional ways that we can ensure such

cooperation at a time when, quite frankly, the region is experiencing heightened tensions.

So with that, let me sign this bill. Again, I want to thank all who are standing beside me for their outstanding leadership and their outstanding work on this issue. Okay.

[At this point, the President signed the bill.]

Let me make sure I'm using enough pens, and everybody gets one. [Laughter] There you go. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:24 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. S. 2165, approved July 27, was assigned Public Law No. 112–150.

## Remarks at an Obama Victory Fund 2012 Fundraiser in McLean, Virginia July 27, 2012

*The President.* Hello, everybody! Well, it is good to be with all of you. And I just want to say to Earl and Amanda, thank you so much for opening up your beautiful home. They have been great supports for a very long time.

And I want to thank all the other cohosts—the Moores, the Moreheads, the Slades—thank you, all of you, who helped to put this thing together. It is a great, great event.

I know it's a little warm out here, but you know, it's summertime. [Laughter] It's summertime, so you're supposed to bead up a little bit. [Laughter]

You know, this is going to be my last campaign. I'm term limited; I can't run again. Michelle is perfectly happy with that. [Laughter] But it's made me a little bit nostalgic about some of my first campaigns. I think back to the first time I ran as a—for State senate in the South Side of Chicago. And back then, we didn't have a lot of support there initially, so I had to go xerox my flyers at Kinko's. [Laughter] And Michelle and I and some friends, we'd go and knock on doors, and people would say, "Who?" "How do you say that name again?" [Laughter]

I won that first race, and then, I ran for the U.S. Senate. And the thing about Illinois is it's

a big State and a diverse State, so I'd have to drive all around the State. And back then, I didn't have Marine One or Air Force One, so I'd do my own driving. I might have a staff person in the passenger seat. And the young people out there, you may not understand this, but we had these things called maps. [Laughter] So we didn't have GPS back then. And they were on pieces of paper, and you'd have to unfold them and then fold them again. [Laughter] And you'd get lost. And then I'd have to find my own parking spot. And if it was raining, I'd have to be reaching in the back to see if I could find an umbrella.

But wherever I went—inner city, farm town, suburbs—whatever people I was meeting, whatever background they were from, they all had a similar story. It was similar to the story of my family. If I'd met an older person—

*Audience member.* [Inaudible]

*The President.* What are you talking about, young lady? [Laughter] I'm calling you out. She is talking about how to get her picture right. [Laughter] I'm just teasing you. [Laughter]

But if I met an older veteran, I'd think about my grandparents and how my grandfather fought in World War II. When he came back, he was able to go to college on the GI bill. And