

NOTE: The President spoke at approximately 11:52 a.m. in the South Court Auditorium of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary of Education Arne Duncan; Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr.; Secretary of Homeland Security Janet A. Napolitano; Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius; and James E. Holmes, accused gun-

man in the July 20, 2012, shootings at the Century 16 multiplex in Aurora, CO. Vice President Biden referred to Colin Goddard, assistant director for legislative affairs, Brady Campaign To Prevent Gun Violence. He also referred to the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. The memorandums are listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Statement on the Resignation of Kenneth L. Salazar as Secretary of the Interior *January 16, 2013*

I want to thank Ken for his hard work and leadership on behalf of the American people. As the Secretary of the Interior, Ken has helped usher in a new era of conservation for our Nation's land, water, and wildlife.

Ken has played an integral role in my administration's successful efforts to expand responsible development of our Nation's domestic energy resources. In his work to promote renewable energy projects on our public lands and increase the development of oil and gas production, Ken

has ensured that the Department's decisions are driven by the best science and promote the highest safety standards. Ken has also made historic strides in strengthening our nation-to-nation relationship with Indian Country, helping to resolve longstanding disputes and make tribal communities safer and stronger.

I have valued Ken's friendship since we both entered the Senate in 2005, and I look forward to receiving his counsel even after he returns to his home State of Colorado.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Review of Title III of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 *January 16, 2013*

Dear _____:

Consistent with section 306(c)(2) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-114) (the "Act"), I hereby determine and report to the Congress that suspension, for 6 months beyond February 1, 2013, of the right to bring an action under title III of the Act is necessary to the national interests of the United States and will expedite a transition to democracy in Cuba.

Sincerely,

BARACK OBAMA

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Barbara A. Mikulski, chairman, and W. Thad Cochran, vice chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations; John F. Kerry, chairman, and Robert P. Corker, Jr., ranking member, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; Harold D. Rogers, chairman, and Nita M. Lowey, ranking member, House Committee on Appropriations; and Edward R. Royce, chairman, and Elliot L. Engel, ranking member, House Committee on Foreign Affairs.