

significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond October 21, 2013.

The circumstances that led to the declaration on October 21, 1995, of a national emergency have not been resolved. The actions of significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States and to cause an extreme level of violence, corruption, and harm in the United States and abroad. For these reasons, I have determined

that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12978 with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia.

BARACK OBAMA

The White House,
October 16, 2013.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message. The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks on Senate Passage of Legislation To End the Federal Government Shutdown and Increase the Public Debt Limit and an Exchange With Reporters October 16, 2013

The President. Good evening, everybody. Tonight the Republicans and Democrats in Congress have come together around an agreement that will reopen our Government and remove the threat of default from our economy.

The Senate has now voted to approve this agreement, and Democrats and Republicans in the House still have an important vote to take, but I want to thank the leaders of both parties for getting us to this point. Once this agreement arrives on my desk, I will sign it immediately. We'll begin reopening our Government immediately, and we can begin to lift this cloud of uncertainty and unease from our businesses and from the American people.

I'll have more to say about this tomorrow. And I've got some thoughts about how we can move forward in the remainder of the year and stay focused on the job at hand, because there's a lot of work ahead of us, including our need to earn back the trust of the American people that's been lost over the last few weeks. And we can begin to do that by addressing the real issues that they care about.

I've said it before; I'll say it again: I am willing to work with anybody, I am eager to work with anybody—Democrat or Republican, House or Senate Members—on any idea that

will grow our economy, create new jobs, strengthen the middle class, and get our fiscal house in order for the long term. I've never believed that Democrats have a monopoly on good ideas. And despite the differences over the issue of shutting down our Government, I'm convinced that Democrats and Republicans can work together to make progress for America.

In fact, there are things that we know will help strengthen our economy that we could get done before this year is out. We still need to pass a law to fix our broken immigration system. We still need to pass a farm bill. And with the shutdown behind us and budget committees forming, we now have an opportunity to focus on a sensible budget that is responsible, that is fair, and that helps hard-working people all across this country.

And we could get all these things done even this year if everybody comes together in a spirit of how are we going to move this country forward and put the last 3 weeks behind us. That's what I believe the American people are looking for: not a focus on politics, not a focus on elections, but a focus on the concrete steps that can improve their lives. That's going to be

my focus. I'm looking forward to Congress doing the same.

But once again, I want to thank the leadership for coming together and getting this done. Hopefully, next time, it won't be in the eleventh hour. One of the things that I said throughout this process is, we've got to get out of the habit of governing by crisis. And my hope and expectation is, everybody has learned that there's no reason why we can't work on the issues at hand, why we can't disagree between the parties while still being agreeable and make sure that we're not inflicting harm on the American people when we do have disagreements.

So, hopefully, that's a lesson that will be internalized, and not just by me, but also by Democrats and Republicans; not only the leaders, but also the rank and file.

Thanks very much, everybody.

Federal Budget

Q. Mr. President, isn't this going to happen all over again in a few months?

The President. No. [Laughter]

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:28 p.m. in the James S. Brady Press Briefing Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to H.R. 2775.

Remarks on the End of the Federal Government Shutdown October 17, 2013

Good morning, everybody. Please have a seat.

Well, last night I signed legislation to reopen our Government and pay America's bills. Because Democrats and responsible Republicans came together, the first Government shutdown in 17 years is now over. The first default in more than 200 years will not happen. These twin threats to our economy have now been lifted. And I want to thank those Democrats and Republicans for getting together and ultimately getting this job done.

Now, there's been a lot of discussion lately of the politics of this shutdown. But let's be clear: There are no winners here. These last few weeks have inflicted completely unnecessary damage on our economy. We don't know yet the full scope of the damage, but every analyst out there believes it slowed our growth.

We know that families have gone without paychecks or services they depend on. We know that potential home buyers have gotten fewer mortgages and small-business loans have been put on hold. We know that consumers have cut back on spending and that half of all CEOs say that the shutdown and the threat of shutdown set back their plans to hire over the next 6 months. We know that just the threat of default, of America not paying all the bills that

we owe on time, increased our borrowing costs, which adds to our deficit.

And of course, we know that the American people's frustration with what goes on in this town has never been higher. That's not a surprise that the American people are completely fed up with Washington. At a moment when our economic recovery demands more jobs, more momentum, we've got yet another self-inflicted crisis that set our economy back. And for what?

There was no economic rationale for all of this. Over the past 4 years, our economy has been growing, our businesses have been creating jobs, and our deficits have been cut in half. We hear some Members who pushed for the shutdown say they were doing it to save the American economy, but nothing has done more to undermine our economy these past 3 years than the kind of tactics that create these manufactured crises.

And you don't have to take my word for it. The agency that put America's credit rating on watch the other day explicitly cited all of this, saying that our economy "remains more dynamic and resilient" than other advanced economies and that the only thing putting us at risk is—and I'm quoting here—"repeated brinkmanship." That's what the credit rating agency