

where we're looking for a substantive win for the U.S. economy and the American people and the businesses that are represented here.

So I'm very grateful to all of you who have joined us. But we're going to be pushing to make sure that we send out that clarion call up

towards Capitol Hill, see if we can get this done before the end of the year. All right?

Thank you very much, everybody.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:38 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House.

Statement on the Passage of Marriage Equality Legislation in Illinois November 5, 2013

Tonight I applaud the men and women of the Illinois General Assembly, a body in which I was proud to serve, for voting to legalize marriage equality in my home State.

As President, I have always believed that gay and lesbian Americans should be treated fairly and equally under the law. Over time, I also came to believe that same-sex couples should be able to get married like anyone else. So tonight Michelle and I are overjoyed for all the committed couples in Illinois whose love will now be as legal as ours and for their friends and family who have long wanted nothing more than to see their loved ones treated fairly and equally under the law.

I also commend the members of the General Assembly for approaching this issue in a fair and open way and for recognizing the impor-

tance of our commitment to religious freedom by engaging the religious community in this conversation. Throughout this debate, they've made it clear that this is about civil marriages and civil laws and made sure that churches and other institutions of faith are still free to make their own decisions that conform to their own teachings.

As I said in my Inaugural Address last January, our journey as a nation is not complete until our gay brothers and sisters are treated like anyone else under the law, for if we are truly created equal, then surely the love we commit to one another must be equal as well. And tonight I'm so proud that the men and women elected to serve the people of the great State of Illinois have chosen to take us one step further on that journey to perfect our Union.

Remarks at Temple Emanu-El in Dallas, Texas November 6, 2013

The President. Thank you, Edna. Give Edna a big round of applause. Well, it is wonderful to see all of you. And let me just make some special mention of some people in addition to Edna who are here.

First of all, your outstanding mayor, Mike Rawlings, is here. Outstanding county judge, Clay Jenkins, who's doing a great job on affordable care. Thank you, Clay. Wonderful Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson is here. And we want to thank Rabbi David Stern and Rabbi Asher Knight of Temple Emanu-El for hosting us here today.

And the main reason I'm here is to thank all of you. Edna's story is a story that is repeated all across the country: people who got sick and

didn't have health insurance; folks who thought they had health insurance; and then, turned out, because of the fine print or them not filling something out right, they were short of what they needed in terms of getting healed.

And when I ran for office, obviously, we were in the midst of a great recession, and my number-one priority was making sure that we didn't go into a great depression and making sure that we started putting people back to work. We've now seen the economy begin to recover, although sometimes, Washington is not helpful with things like the shutdown. We've seen 7½ million new jobs created. We've seen exports at record levels. We've seen a lot of growth in places like Dallas, and