

The President. All right. Good job. Don't tear up the place!

Audience member. We already did!

The President. Did you? [*Laughter*]

NOTE: The President spoke at approximately 2:55 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to 2014 U.S. Olympic bobsledder Johnny Quinn; Scott

Blackmun, chief executive officer, and Lawrence F. Probst III, chairman of the board of directors, U.S. Olympic Committee; and Janson Pace, husband of 2014 U.S. Olympic skeleton sledder Noelle Pikus-Pace, and their children Lacey and Traycen. The First Lady referred to Leslie Cnossen, sister of 2014 U.S. Paralympic cross-country skier and biathlete Dan Cnossen.

Remarks on Signing the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act *April 3, 2014*

The President. Well, it is a great honor to be here to sign the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act. And I want to talk about Gabriella, the young girl that this bill is named after.

When Gabriella, a beautiful, fun-loving, smart young lady, was 9 years old, she was diagnosed with a brain tumor about the size of a walnut. And she was tough, and she knew that she had to fight it, and one of the ways that she did was to—it was about the size of a walnut, so she smashed walnuts.

[*At this point, the President addressed Gabriella's brother Jake Miller.*]

And sometimes, I'll bet you might have helped out. [*Laughter*]

And she fought the good fight. And Gabriella didn't make it, and she's in a better place, but her parents Mark and Ellyn, along with her little brother Jake, as well as a coalition of outstanding legislators—Republicans and Democrats, standing behind me—as well as advocates, decided that in her memory we needed to make sure that we get more money into research for the National Institute of Health so that we can know more about brain tumors, how they affect children relative to adults, what more we can do to make sure that the pain that the Miller family went through is not something that has to be repeated.

And so what this legislation is going to do is, it's going to put millions of additional dollars into that research. We're going to need some cooperation from Congress, continuing to

work on a bipartisan basis, to actually allocate those dollars in an effective way. I know that NIH is very eager to work on these pediatric cancers, because obviously, nothing is more challenging for a family than to go through something like this, and there's more we can do to prevent it.

So I want to thank all the legislators who are standing behind me here today. I want to thank all the advocates who are here with us today. I especially want to thank the Miller family for being here, because it's a wonderful way to remember a wonderful girl.

Okay, so, Jake, do you think that I should I start signing? I should?

Ellyn Miller. Yes, sir [*Laughter*].

The President. Okay. So what I have to do is, I have to use all of these pens, which means I can only use—for each pen, I can only make, like, half a letter. So it's going to take a little bit of time. Are you okay with that? All right.

[*The President signed the bill.*]

There you go. And there's my signature, and the bill is officially signed. But before we finish up, you get the first pen.

[*The President presented the pen to Jake Miller.*]

Ellyn Miller. Say, "Thank you, sir."

Jake Miller. Thank you.

The President. You're welcome.

All right. Thank you, everybody.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:10 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. H.R. 2019, approved April 3, was assigned Public Law No. 113-94.

Message to the Congress on Blocking Property of Certain Persons With Respect to South Sudan

April 3, 2014

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) (IEEPA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order (the “order”) declaring a national emergency with respect to the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States posed by the situation in and in relation to South Sudan.

The order does not target the country of South Sudan, but rather is aimed at persons who threaten the peace, stability, or security of South Sudan; commit human rights abuses against persons in South Sudan; or undermine democratic processes or institutions in South Sudan. The order provides authority for blocking the property and interests in property of any person determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State:

- to be responsible for or complicit in, or to have engaged in, directly or indirectly, any of the following in or in relation to South Sudan:
 - actions or policies that threaten the peace, security, or stability of South Sudan;
 - actions or policies that threaten transitional agreements or undermine democratic processes or institutions in South Sudan;
 - actions or policies that have the purpose or effect of expanding or extending the conflict in South Sudan or obstructing reconciliation or peace talks or processes;
- the commission of human rights abuses against persons in South Sudan;
- the targeting of women, children, or any civilians through the commission of acts of violence (including killing, maiming, torture, or rape or other sexual violence), abduction, forced displacement, or attacks on schools, hospitals, religious sites, or locations where civilians are seeking refuge, or through conduct that would constitute a serious abuse or violation of human rights or a violation of international humanitarian law;
- the use or recruitment of children by armed groups or armed forces in the context of the conflict in South Sudan;
- the obstruction of the activities of international peacekeeping, diplomatic, or humanitarian missions in South Sudan, or of the delivery or distribution of, or access to, humanitarian assistance; or
- attacks against United Nations missions, international security presences, or other peacekeeping operations;
- to be a leader of (i) an entity, including any government, rebel militia, or other group, that has, or whose members have, engaged in any of the activities described above or (ii) an entity whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order;
- to have materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, logistical, or technological support for, or goods or services in support of, any activity described above or any person whose