

almost 9 million new jobs, and a lot of that has to do with the fact that there are small businesses out there who are making things happen every single day.

But we can always do more. And that's why having such a hard charger as Maria, who knows both the entrepreneurial side as well as public service, is so important. When I announced her nomination back in January, I was absolutely confident that she was going to do a terrific job. And I am no less confident today.

I understand, she already had meetings this morning. She didn't really wait for the ceremony—[laughter]—to start meeting with some of our veterans and women-owned businesses and Latino- and African American-owned businesses. And she's going to be out there, I know, listening to small businesses, working with our other agencies that are in charge of helping businesses grow. And I'm confident that by the end of her tenure she's really going to have made her mark and made a difference.

And of course, she also has a really beautiful family, which is good too.

So with that, Biden is in charge of the next stage of this thing. [Laughter] And he always does a great job. And it's not that many lines—[laughter]—so hopefully, we'll get them right. We had a few problems my first time out, but second time went smoothly. So—[laughter]. And Joe has done this a lot. [Laughter]

So congratulations again, Maria. Thank you.

[At this point, the President left the stage. Vice President Joe Biden delivered brief remarks and then administered the oath of office. Administrator Contreras-Sweet then delivered brief remarks.]

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:35 p.m. in the South Court Auditorium of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Vice President Biden and Administrator Contreras-Sweet.

Statement on the Maryland Legislature's Passage of Legislation To Raise the Minimum Wage

April 7, 2014

The Maryland Legislature did the right thing for its workers today by increasing the State minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour. Maryland's important action is a reminder that many States, cities and counties, as well as a majority of the American people, are way ahead of Washington on this crucial issue. I applaud Governor O'Malley and the State legislature for leading by example and giving more Maryland workers the raise they deserve. But

there's only one group who can get the job done for the entire country—that's Congress. They should follow Maryland's lead and lift wages for 28 million Americans by passing legislation to increase the Federal minimum wage to \$10.10, helping to ensure that no American who works full time has to raise a family in poverty and that every American who works hard has the opportunity to succeed.

Statement on Senate Action on Emergency Unemployment Insurance Legislation

April 7, 2014

Today the Senate acted in a bipartisan way to reinstate emergency unemployment insurance for 2.3 million Americans who depend on it as they search for work. As I've said time and

again, Washington needs to put politics aside and help these hard-working, responsible Americans make ends meet and support their families as they look for a job. Each week Con-

gress fails to act on this crucial issue, roughly 70,000 long-term unemployed Americans lose their vital economic lifeline. I urge House Republicans to stop blocking a bipartisan compro-

mise that would stem this tide, take up the bill without delay, and send it to my desk. Let's remove this needless drag on our economy and focus on expanding opportunity for all Americans.

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Somalia

April 7, 2014

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13536 of April 12, 2010, with respect to Somalia is to continue in effect beyond April 12, 2014.

On January 17, 2013, the United States Government announced its recognition of the Government of Somalia. The United States had not

recognized a government in Somalia for the previous 22 years. Although the U.S. recognition underscores a strong commitment to Somalia's stabilization, it does not remove the importance of U.S. sanctions, especially against persons undermining the stability of Somalia. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency with respect to Somalia and to maintain in force the sanctions to respond to this threat.

BARACK OBAMA

The White House,
April 7, 2014.

NOTE: The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks on Signing an Executive Order on Non-Retaliation for Disclosure of Compensation Information and a Memorandum on Advancing Pay Equality Through Compensation Data Collection

April 8, 2014

The President. Thank you, everybody. All right. Well, thanks to my friend, Lilly Ledbetter, not only for that introduction, but for fighting for a simple principle: equal pay for equal work. It's not that complicated. And, Lilly, I assure you, you remain the face of fair pay. [Laughter] People don't want my mug on there. [Laughter] They want your face.

As Lilly mentioned, she did not set out to be a trailblazer. She was just somebody who was waking up every day, going to work, doing her job the best that she could. And then one day, she finds out, after years, that she earned less

than her male colleagues for doing the same job. I want to make that point again. [Laughter] Doing the same job. This—sometimes, when you—when we discuss this issue of fair pay, equal pay for equal work, and the pay gap between men and women, you'll hear all sorts of excuses about: Now, well, they're childbearing, and they're choosing to do this, and they're this, and they're that and the other. She was doing the same job, probably doing it better. [Laughter] Same job. Working just as hard, probably putting in more hours. But she was getting systematically paid less.