

came here, who wrote me a letter just talking about how she had done everything right, her and her husband, and she's working hard and raising two beautiful kids, and she has a great life, but it's a struggle, and wondering if anybody in Washington knows it. What I told her is the same thing I want to tell all of you, which is, I know it. You're the reason I ran for office. You're—[*applause*—no, no, I'm not looking for applause. I want to make this point. I grew up not in tough circumstances, but I was you guys. Somebody out here is going through what my mom went through. Somebody out here is growing through what my grandma went through. Somebody out here is going through what Michelle and I went through when we were first married and our kids were first born. It's not like I forget. That was just 20 years ago that we were trying to figure out how to buy our first home. It was just 10 years ago when we finished off paying our student loans.

You guys are the reason I ran. You're who I'm thinking about every single day. And just because it's not reported in the news, I don't want you to think that I'm not fighting for you. And I'm not always going to get it done as fast as I want, because right now we've got a Congress that's dysfunctional. And I'll be honest with you, you've got a party on the other side

whose only rationale—motivation seems to be opposing me.

But despite all that, we're making progress. Despite all that, some folks have health care that didn't have it before. Despite all that, some students are able to afford their education better. Despite all that, some folks have jobs that didn't have it. Despite all that, the Green Line got built here in Minnesota. Despite all that, we can make life a little better for American families who are doing their best, working hard, meeting their responsibilities.

And I don't want you to ever forget that. And I don't want you to be cynical. Cynicism is popular these days, but hope is better.

Thanks, everybody. All right. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:24 p.m. at Minnehaha Park. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Christopher B. Coleman of Saint Paul, MN; Mayor Betsy A. Hodges of Minneapolis, MN; St. Anthony, MN, resident Rebekah Erler, her husband Ben Erler, and their sons Jack and Henry; 2014 White House Science Fair participant Elana Simon of New York City and her parents Sanford Simon and Rachael Migler; and Lilly Ledbetter, former employee, Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. plant in Gadsden, AL. He also referred to his sister Maya Soetoro-Ng.

Statement on Elections in Libya *June 26, 2014*

I congratulate the Libyan people on the conclusion of the elections for a new Council of Representatives, a milestone in their courageous efforts to transition from four decades of dictatorship toward a full democracy. While yesterday's vote demonstrates the power of individual Libyans in determining their future, we recognize that elections are just one step in Libya's broader democratic transition. Libya's new Government must now focus on building consensus to address the challenges of establishing security, providing effective public ser-

vices, and ensuring an inclusive political process. The United States calls on all parties to renounce violence and resolve differences through political dialogue and participation in the democratic process. The United States was proud to support the Libyan people in the darkest days of their revolution and through their efforts to end the Qadhafi regime, and we remain committed to supporting the Libyan people as they work to lay the foundations of a democratic society during this challenging yet historic time.