

you've got to have more revenues. The best way to have more revenues is to encourage economic growth. The more economic growth there is, the more people who are working, the more likely it is you're going to get more revenues into the Treasury of the United States. I'm concerned about the deficit, but I'm first and foremost concerned about that person looking for a job, and so should the United States Congress be worried about people looking for work.

It's time for them to move. The debate has started in Washington, DC. The message I hope you send is, the more tax relief, the more work is going to be available for your fellow citizens. I would hope you'd call the members of your congressional delegation to let them know what you think, to let them know your opinion.

Democracy can work, particularly when a lot of people get on the phone or by email and just let them know what's on your mind. You need to let them know you're concerned, just like the President's concerned about your fellow Arkansas citizen who's anxious to put food on the table but can't find a job. And remind them the best way to find a job—the best way to help somebody find a job is to stimulate the private sector, is to stimulate small-business growth, to let people keep more of their own money. And you might just remind them that we know whose money it is we're talking about in Washington, DC. It's the people's money in the State of Arkansas.

And I want to thank you all for giving me the chance to come by and say hello. It's been an unbelievable experience to be your President. It's an unimaginable honor to be the President of such a fabulous country. I say "fabulous country" because there is no doubt in my mind we can achieve anything we put our mind to. There's no doubt in my mind that we can have a strong economy. And there's no doubt in my mind that the world is going to be more peaceful and more free because of the United States of America.

You see, we hold values dear to our heart. We believe in human dignity. We believe every individual has worth. We believe in respect. We believe in tolerance. But the thing

we hold most dear to our heart is we believe in the power of freedom.

Thank you all for coming. May God bless you all, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:06 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Robinson Center. In his remarks, he referred to Lt. Gov. Win Rockefeller of Arkansas; Mayor Jim Dailey of Little Rock; former President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; Maura Lozano-Yancy, owner, Cross Cultural Development Group; Mary and Pete Peterson, owners, Arkansas Packaging Products, Inc.; Richard Derickson, owner, Hiwasse Manufacturing Co.; Gordon Whitbeck, chief executive officer, Whitbeck Laboratories; and James Davis, owner, Davis Agency. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Statement on Senate Confirmation of Deborah L. Cook as a Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

May 5, 2003

I commend the Senate for confirming Deborah Cook to be a Judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. She has served with distinction as an Ohio Supreme Court justice and is known for her integrity and outstanding legal ability. She has led a distinguished legal career, and she will make a superb appellate court judge.

Justice Cook was first nominated on May 9, 2001, and has waited nearly 2 years for a vote. Some in the Senate continue to engage in obstructionist tactics and are preventing votes on two very qualified nominees who were also nominated on May 9, 2001, Miguel Estrada and Priscilla Owen.

Our justice system relies upon an independent court system, and when there are vacancies, the American people suffer. I again call on the Senate to put an end to the delays and to hold an up-or-down vote on all judicial nominees within a reasonable amount of time, regardless of who is President or which party controls the Senate.

**Message on the Observance of
Cinco de Mayo, 2003**

May 5, 2003

I send greetings to those celebrating Cinco de Mayo.

Today, millions of people in Mexico and around the world honor the heritage of a proud people by remembering the heroic Battle of Puebla. On May 5th, 1862, Mexico's General Ignacio Zaragoza and his troops achieved a remarkable victory in the face of tremendous challenge and helped secure Mexico's freedom. This example of courage and sacrifice continues to inspire us today, as we are reminded that people of every culture, of every race, and every background, yearn to be free.

This observance also provides an opportunity for the United States to recognize the invaluable contributions of Mexican Americans to our country. Through their vibrant culture and deep commitment to faith, family, and community, Mexican Americans have enriched our society and contributed to the diversity that makes our Nation strong. We also recognize the many Mexican Americans serving in our Armed Forces who are working to bring freedom and justice to oppressed people. As we remember our two countries' shared history and common values, we look forward to a future of continued friendship and prosperity.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for a memorable celebration.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

**Message on the Observance of
National Foster Care Month, 2003**

May 5, 2003

I send greetings to those celebrating National Foster Care Month.

Children thrive in loving families where they are nurtured, comforted, and protected. For many children, foster parents provide a safe haven until they can return home or be placed with an adoptive family. Across our Nation, approximately 570,000 children are

living in foster care. During this month, we honor foster and adoptive parents, mentors, community organizations, and all individuals who embrace the lives of young people in need.

My Administration remains committed to strengthening American families by setting policies that encourage a secure today and a healthy tomorrow for children and families. Through the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program, we are working to keep families together. When children must be separated from their families to protect their safety, this program supports efforts to correct the problem and reunite them safely and quickly. The Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program also supports adoption and post-adoptive services to place children with loving families, to ease a child's transition into a new family, and to help ensure that families stay strong and intact. And as teens leave the foster care system, the program authorizes States to provide Independent Living vouchers of up to \$5,000 a year for education and vocational training.

Every child in America deserves to live in a safe, permanent, and loving family. I commend foster parents for providing guidance and support to young people and families in crisis. Your important work helps our children develop into confident and successful individuals and demonstrates the compassionate spirit of our great Nation.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

Remarks to the Tax Relief Coalition

May 6, 2003

Thank you all. Good to see you. Thanks for coming. Thank you all. Thanks for coming. I heard you were in the neighborhood—*[laughter]*—so I decided to drop by and say hello. Thanks for your interest in your country. Thanks for your concern about the future. Thanks for worrying about somebody who is wondering whether he or she are going to be able to put food on the table,