

talk. The American people have got to understand, we've got friends in the leadership in Central America. And they're working hard to punish corruption and keep the streets safe. They're working hard to make sure they have a society that respects human rights and the rule of law. We're working together to nail the drug traffickers and terrorists and criminal gangs who feed on lawlessness and instability.

CAFTA will strengthen those who are taking on the forces of radicalism and violence in this hemisphere, and it will make our country more secure. As former Governor of a State that shares a long border with Mexico, I know first hand the importance of improving ties with our neighbors. It's really important that we've got strong ties in a neighborhood in which you live. I understand the importance of removing trade barriers that make it difficult for our businesses and farmers to compete.

This bill that the House of Representatives will be voting on next week is pro-jobs, pro-growth, and pro-democracy. It is important that we pass this piece of legislation. And I want to thank you all for giving me a chance to come and talk about its importance. And I encourage you to keep doing what you're doing, is talking to Members of the United States Congress and remind them, set aside partisan politics for the good of the United States of America. It's in our economic interests, it's in our national security interests that the House of Representatives join the United States Senate and pass that CAFTA bill, which I'll proudly sign on behalf of America's workers and small businesses and those of us who love and cherish democracy.

May God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:12 a.m. at the Organization of American States. In his remarks, he referred to Raul Yzaguirre, former president and chief executive officer, National Council of LaRaza; Anne Alonzo, co-founder, Hispanic Alliance for Free Trade; and Secretary General Jose Miguel Insulza of the Organization of American States. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

### **Statement on House of Representatives Action on the PATRIOT Act**

*July 21, 2005*

I commend the House for voting to reauthorize provisions of the PATRIOT Act that are set to expire this year. The PATRIOT Act has enhanced information sharing between law enforcement and intelligence personnel, updated the law to adapt to changes in technology, and provided critical tools to investigate terrorists that have been used for years in cases against organized crime and drug dealers. The PATRIOT Act is a key part of our efforts to combat terrorism and protect the American people, and the Congress needs to send me a bill soon that renews the Act without weakening our ability to fight terror.

### **Proclamation 7914—Parents' Day, 2005**

*July 21, 2005*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

Parents are role models for their children. With patience, sacrifice, and love, they teach their children life lessons and prepare them for the future. On Parents' Day, we express our gratitude for the hard work of parents throughout America and reaffirm our commitment to promoting a culture of responsible parenthood.

Mothers and fathers love their children unconditionally and make daily sacrifices to provide for them. Parents create a safe, nurturing environment in which their children can grow and learn. By instructing their children to make right choices, parents instill lifelong values and prepare their children for the challenges and opportunities ahead. Parents experience the great joy of watching their sons and daughters mature into responsible adults and good citizens.

On Parents' Day, we recognize the boundless love and generosity of all parents, including the foster and adoptive parents who demonstrate the compassionate spirit of America.