

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

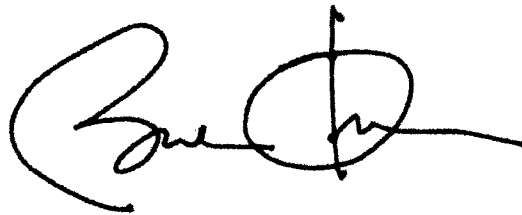
April 6, 2009

I send greetings to all who are observing National Workplace Wellness Week, and I join you in recognizing the strength of a healthy America.

The rising cost of health care is one of the most pressing financial challenges for our families and our Nation, and I share the sense of urgency that many Americans are voicing. By working to improve safety and health in the workplace, we can reduce costs, increase productivity, and implement best practices that further citizens' well-being.

During National Workplace Wellness Week, employers will highlight the importance of this issue through smart, preventive health education and programming at the workplace. I commend Representative Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, Representative Charles Boustany, and Senator Tom Harkin for their accomplishments in promoting a healthier and more competitive American workforce.

Together with Congress, I am working to build on these accomplishments. I recently signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which includes \$1 billion for prevention and wellness. Investments made now in the health of Americans will contribute to the long-term wellness of our individual citizens, our economy, and our Nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style.