

the clean energy space. And we're going to restore those American values of fair play and responsibility that made us who we are.

We've got to follow the lead of the members of our military who are here today. You rise or fall as one unit, serving one Nation. You have each other's backs. That's the same spirit that you'll find in communities all over America. Each of us is here only because somebody was looking out for us. Not just our parents, but we had neighbors and communities and churches and synagogues, people who were coaching Little League. And we had a country that was investing in community colleges and universities and research and caring for our vets. Everybody was taking responsibility for each other and for our country, as well as for ourselves.

Somebody had our back. Otherwise, we wouldn't have been successful. Certainly, I wouldn't have been. This country exists because generations of Americans worked together and looked out for each other. Out of

many, we came together as one. These are the values we have to return to. That's how we're going to create an economy that is built to last. That's how we're going to make sure that we have the best energy policy in the world. That's how we're going to put people back to work. That's how we're going to continue to make sure we have the finest military in the history of the world.

If we work together in common purpose, nobody can stop us. We will rebuild this economy. We will meet these challenges. We'll remind everybody why the United States is the greatest country on Earth.

Thank you, everybody. God bless you. God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:34 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to Maj. Alberto Mezarina, USAF (Ret.), energy manager, and Col. Daniel A. Dant, USAF, commander, 460th Space Wing, Buckley Air Force Base.

Statement on North Carolina Governor Beverly E. Perdue's Decision Not To Seek Reelection

January 26, 2012

As the first woman to serve as North Carolina's Lieutenant Governor and Governor, Bev Perdue has never been afraid to break barriers. For over 25 years, she has fought for the people of the Tar Heel State, working to transform the State's public schools, improve the health

care system, protect and attract jobs for members of the military and their families, and create the jobs of the future. Michelle and I want to congratulate Governor Perdue on her historic tenure, and we wish Bev and her family well in the future.

Statement on Representative R. Bradley Miller's Decision Not To Seek Re-election

January 26, 2012

Brad Miller has served the people of North Carolina for two decades. In the House of Representatives, Brad helped lead the fight to protect families from abuses by the financial industry and is a key reason

why today we finally have a strong watchdog in place looking out for American consumers. Michelle and I thank Brad for his service and wish him the very best in the future.