

THE WHITE HOUSE

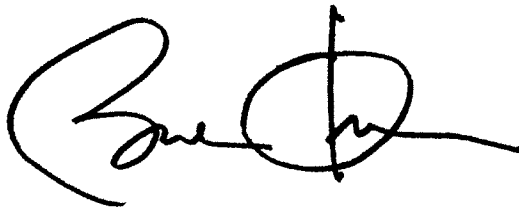
WASHINGTON

April 2009

Sound financial planning and responsibility are essential to our families and our economy, and I am pleased to join all who are observing Financial Literacy Month.

It is more important than ever to understand how to balance a checkbook, budget wisely, plan for retirement, and avoid accumulating debts that could harm your financial future. A strong American economy depends on everyone—from individuals and homeowners, to investors and entrepreneurs—practicing financial responsibility. We must pass along such fundamental knowledge to our family and friends, because financial literacy empowers all of us.

The emphasis on financial literacy awareness and education must extend beyond April. I hope the insights you have gained this month will continue to improve the quality of life for you, your family and community, and I wish you all the best.

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