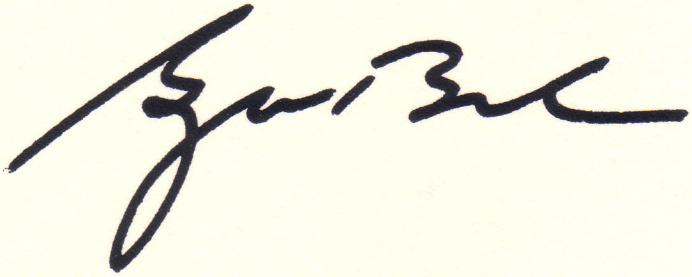
THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 9, 2004

I send greetings to those observing National Nursing Home Week. Established by the American Health Care Association in 1967, this annual observance honors Americans who live in nursing homes and the staff members who help care for them.

Every day, millions of caregivers, nurses, and volunteers provide care for seniors and people with disabilities. I commend the efforts of long-term care professionals to improve the quality of life for nursing home residents. Their service brings comfort to their patients and peace of mind to their loved ones. I also appreciate nursing home residents for the many contributions they have made to our country in their lives. They have helped to make our Nation stronger.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes.