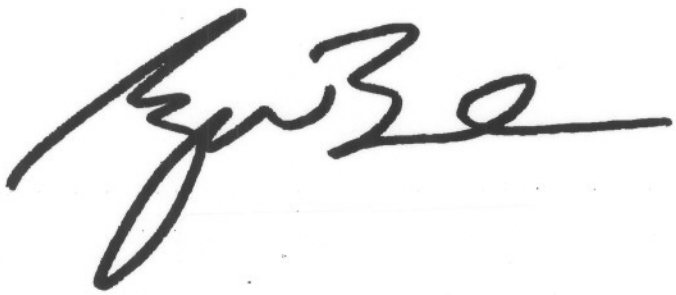
THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 18, 2006

I send greetings to those celebrating Deepavali (Diwali), the Festival of Lights.

Every year during Diwali, Hindus remember their many blessings and celebrate their hope for a brighter future. The Festival of Lights demonstrates the rich history and traditions of the Hindu faith as friends and family come together in a spirit of love and joy. This celebration unites people around the world in goodwill and reminds us of the many cultures that enrich our Nation.

Laura and I send our best wishes for a joyous Diwali and a year of happiness.