

Proclamation 6586 of August 18, 1993**Women's Equality Day, 1993**

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On August 26, 1993, we celebrate the 73rd anniversary of the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution. In declaring that the right to vote shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex, the Nineteenth Amendment guaranteed for women the most cherished prerogative of American citizenship.

Since America was founded, women have demonstrated an active interest in shaping the practice of democratic government. But it was not until the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment that women's myriad contributions to the social, cultural, and economic life of our Nation began to receive the full acknowledgment they deserved. As women's voices continue to gain strength in the political arena, female elected officials at every level of government bring crucial insight to the decision-making process.

The struggle for true equality among the sexes has not been limited to the public sphere. Broadening the franchise fundamentally changed our understanding of equal opportunity, helping to encourage shared responsibility in the home and personal growth in the work place. Today, more and more women are leading the way through advancements in law, science, business, and the arts. As we approach the 21st century, women's unfailing strength and wisdom remain integral to ensuring the lasting prosperity of our Nation.

Each year, we observe August 26 as "Women's Equality Day," to honor the infinite sacrifices and contributions that women have made to the United States. On this occasion we reaffirm our national commitment to the distinctly American promise of guaranteed equality for all our people.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6587 of September 3, 1993**National POW/MIA Recognition Day, 1993**

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

This year we have witnessed major changes in the global political landscape. Although democracy is taking root in many new areas, the forces of repression pose continuing challenges around the world. Throughout this dynamic period, one theme rings true to all Americans: Our Nation owes a lasting debt of gratitude to all those selfless members of our Armed Forces who have risked their own freedom and

safety to defend the lives and liberty of others. As a measure of our thanks and as an expression of our determination to keep faith with those who faithfully serve and defend us, we take this occasion to remember those special Americans for whom an accounting has not yet been made.

In honor of these Americans, on September 10, 1993, the flag of the National League of POW/MIA families will be flown over the White House; the U.S. Departments of State, Defense, and Veterans Affairs; the Selective Service System headquarters; and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. This black and white banner—emblematic of America's missing—flies as a stark reminder to the world of our Nation's resolve.

We acknowledge a continuing obligation to these casualties of war, America's missing service members and civilians. Our Nation remains committed to this cause, a matter of highest national priority. We renew our pledge to obtain the answers that the family members of these heroes deserve, recognizing the profound loss they have endured and their steadfast resolve to gain the peace of certainty.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim September 10, 1993, as National POW/MIA Recognition Day. I urge all Americans to join in honoring former American POWs as well as those Americans still unaccounted for as a result of their service to our great Nation. I also encourage the American people to express their gratitude to the families of these missing Americans for their dedication to seeking the truth and their determination to persevere through the many years of waiting. Finally, I ask State and local officials and private organizations to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6588 of September 9, 1993

National D.A.R.E. Day, 1993 and 1994

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

America's young people face some daunting challenges. One of the most difficult decisions they have to make is whether or not to use drugs. The signals they receive in this country, where only 5 percent of the world's population consumes approximately 50 percent of the world's illegal drugs, often encourage them to gamble away their future on the false security of momentary escape.

In the knowledge-based world of today, their future, as well as the future of America, rests on education. The successes in Europe and Asia have taught us that the nation most equipped to compete in the 21st