

Two years ago, a coalition headed by Mothers Against Drunk Driving sponsored the first National Drive for Life Day and campaigned for all Americans to pledge not to drink and drive on that day. By pausing on National Drive for Life Day to demonstrate their commitment to the fight against drunk driving, Americans underscored the importance of keeping that pledge throughout the year. The success of that first day prompted calls for an expanded campaign, to which the Congress responded in 1988 by designating Labor Day weekend as National Drive for Life Weekend. By Senate Joint Resolution 127, the Congress has again called for a national campaign by designating the Labor Day weekend beginning September 2, 1989, as "National Drive for Life Weekend" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this weekend.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the Labor Day weekend, September 2 through 4, 1989, as National Drive for Life Weekend. I ask all Americans to help improve the safety of our Nation's highways by pledging not to drink and drive that weekend. I also call upon the Governors of the States, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, and the people of the United States to observe that weekend with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

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

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6012 of August 15, 1989

National Pledge of Allegiance Day, 1989

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

On September 8, 1892, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag first appeared in print. Today, nearly a century later, the words penned by Francis Bellamy in observance of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America are among the most widely recited verses of American literature.

The simple yet eloquent words of the Pledge of Allegiance capture both the character of the American people and the principles upon which our Nation was founded. They are a fitting tribute to our Flag.

The Flag is the unique symbol of our Republic and the freedom that we cherish. It embodies the faith and unity of the men and women who have carried forth this bold experiment in self-government, and it stands in honor of those who have sacrificed their lives to defend it. This proud emblem, the glorious banner of a great and blessed Nation, is worthy of our abiding respect and loyalty.

A diverse people, we Americans are united by what we believe. We believe in God; we believe that all men are created equal; we believe in freedom; and we believe in equal opportunity and justice for all. We rededicate ourselves to these eternal truths every time we pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

In recognition of the significance of the Pledge of Allegiance, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 253, has designated September 8, 1989, as "National Pledge of Allegiance Day" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation calling for the observance of this event.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim September 8, 1989, National Pledge of Allegiance Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day by displaying the United States Flag, by reciting publicly the Pledge of Allegiance, and by participating in other appropriate activities.

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

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6013 of August 15, 1989

The Bicentennial Anniversary of the First U.S. Patent and Copyright Laws, 1990

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

Our Nation's Founding Fathers recognized not only the need to protect the rights and property of individual Americans, but also the importance of providing incentives to stimulate the economic and cultural growth of the United States. Thus, in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, they gave the Congress the power "To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries." Under this provision, the Federal Government can encourage the work of authors and inventors by protecting their right to reap the fruits of their labor.

In his first Annual Message to the Congress, President George Washington reminded its members of the importance of progress in science and the arts, proclaiming that "there is nothing which can better deserve your patronage than the promotion of science and literature." Less than 6 months later, the Congress passed two landmark laws: the first Patent Act, which President Washington signed on April 10, 1790, and the first Copyright Act, which he signed on May 31, 1790. These two Acts have played an important role in establishing the United States as an economic and cultural leader among nations.