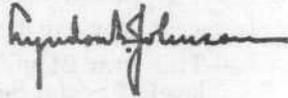


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-seventh day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-second.



Proclamation 3832

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK, 1968

By the President of the United States of America

February 28, 1968

A Proclamation

Each year more and more Americans go boating in their leisure hours. If we are to prevent the needless loss of life and property, this increasing traffic on our waterways must be accompanied by greater awareness of safe boating practices.

The principal agent of boating accidents last year was a careless operator. The most common errors were overloading or improper loading of small boats—mistakes easily avoided by the boatowner who understands his boat, its machinery, and its operation.

An aggressive and comprehensive program of safety education—supported, where necessary, by law enforcement—can reduce the rate of boating accidents, and make boating what it should be: a purely pleasant recreation.

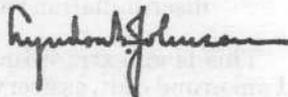
Recognizing the need for emphasis on boating safety, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved June 4, 1958 (72 Stat. 179), has requested the President to proclaim annually the week which includes July 4 as National Safe Boating Week:

36 USC 161.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning June 30, 1968, as National Safe Boating Week.

I also invite the Governors of the States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to provide for the observance of this week.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 28th day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-second.



Proclamation 3833

SENIOR CITIZENS MONTH, 1968

By the President of the United States of America

March 1, 1968

A Proclamation

The respect we show for older Americans is not an act of charity. It comes from the recognition that this generation owes all it possesses to those who have borne responsibility in years past.

We have not always recognized the debt we owe them. It was only three decades ago, with the passage of the original Social Security Act in President Roosevelt's administration, that we first began to respond effectively to our continuing national obligation.

In recent years we have begun to make up this moral deficit:

- This year 24 million older Americans will receive the highest level of Social Security benefits in the history of the program—thanks to the 13 percent increase in benefits we passed last year. *Ninety* percent of our citizens aged 65 and over are now eligible for retirement benefits under Social Security. Millions of older people have been lifted out of conditions of poverty by increased Social Security benefits. Nearly every one of the 78 million wage earners working today has a future retirement protected by Social Security.
- Through Medicare, adopted in 1965, we have at last guaranteed adequate health care to our older citizens—a minimal standard of civilization and decency which required 30 years to achieve. More than 19 million older Americans are now covered by Medicare. During its first year of operation—in fiscal 1967—it paid hospital bills for over 4 million people, and doctor bills for more than 7 million. And it is now providing home health services and other assistance for half a million more.
- Since 1963, we have increased the quality and quantity of housing for our senior citizens. Today the Federal commitment in special housing programs for older citizens totals some \$3 billion.
- Under the Older Americans Act, passed in 1967, we have increased educational, recreational, and health services. Today that program includes 650 individual local projects reaching older people in their home communities across the land.
- Demonstration projects are showing us how to make important advances in nutrition, education, transportation and leisure time activities. We are steadily increasing the number of professionally trained individuals who work with and for the elderly.
- We are increasing opportunities for our elder citizens to make use of their talents and experience. Today older Americans serve with great distinction in the VISTA, SCORE, the Foster Grandparent Program, the Peace Corps, and in many community projects and programs of voluntary agencies.
- In 1967 we enacted long-overdue legislation which prohibits discrimination because of age in employment.

This is an extraordinary record of achievement in so short a time. I am proud of it, as every American should be.

But we are still far from the day when we can be satisfied with our achievements. Our goal must be to give each man and woman the opportunity to make his years of retirement also years of accomplishment and meaning, good health and economic security.

Perhaps the greatest need of age is the need to know that one's contributions are still valued. In a society where youth is so highly prized, older men and women need to know that their wisdom and experience are also important to their fellow citizens. Their contributions are one of our nation's most valuable assets—a resource that should be celebrated by every generation of Americans.

49 Stat. 620.
42 USC 1305.

79 Stat. 220;
81 Stat. 106.
42 USC 3002
note.

81 Stat. 602.
29 USC 621
note.

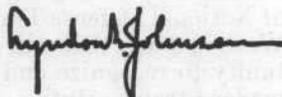
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the month of May 1968 as Senior Citizens Month.

I call upon the Federal, State and local governments, in partnership with private and voluntary organizations, to join in community efforts to give further meaning to the continuing theme of this special month: **MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF THE LATER YEARS.**

Let special emphasis this year be placed on making known the contributions that older Americans are making to our welfare. Let us demonstrate the greatness of our society by bringing new meaning and new vigor to the lives of our elders, who built the framework of our present prosperity and greatness.

I invite the Governors of the States, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commissioner of the District of Columbia, and appropriate officials in other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, to join in the observance of Senior Citizens Month.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-second.



Proclamation 3834

NATIONAL DEFENSE TRANSPORTATION DAY AND NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION WEEK, 1968

By the President of the United States of America

March 7, 1968

A Proclamation

One hundred years ago, an American travelling from San Francisco to New York went by ship to Central America, crossed the Isthmus by mule and wagon, and four weeks later arrived at his destination.

One year later, with the completion of our first transcontinental railroad, he could travel in relative comfort from California to New York in ten days.

This revolution in transportation was one of the principal causes and opportunities for the rapid progress of our Nation—the taming of a vast continent with a rapidity which astounded the countries of Europe and continues to amaze historians.

The history of our country cannot be separated from the story of our transportation—nor can its future. We look today to the leaders of our transportation industry for the imagination and enterprise which, in the past, did so much to make our Nation great.

While the Government of the United States must continue to play a key partnership role in the improvement and expansion of our transportation system, basic decisions on investment and operation are made by private industry. This partnership between Government and industry forms one of the most critical elements of our economic system.