

PROCLAMATION 4203

Senior Citizens Month, 1973

March 26, 1973*By the President of the United States of America*

A Proclamation

Today more than 20 million Americans have six and a half decades or more of life behind them, and rich years of promise still before them. This distinguished generation grew up with the twentieth century, and they came to the fullness of their maturity at the same time America did. They have stood in the forefront of this country's rise to unprecedented national well-being and to the world leadership role which is ours today.

Our older citizens have given their best to America. Now they deserve the best from America.

Senior Citizens Month each year is a time for all our people to renew the recognition, the respect, and the active concern which properly belong to older Americans.

The theme of this year's observance is **OLDER AMERICANS IN ACTION**. It points our attention to the basic fact that most older people are not mere onlookers in our society—nor are they society's wards. They remain vital, versatile, and highly valued contributors to the quality of American life.

Government's actions on behalf of older Americans must never become mere caretaking. Rather they must be designed to free and assist senior citizens so that they can remain active and involved, in ways of their own choosing. This principle has guided us as Federal spending to help older Americans has increased by almost three-fourths during the past four years.

But Senior Citizens Month 1973 must be something more than a time for renewing our commitment to Government efforts concerning older Americans—important as these efforts are. It must also be a time for strengthening those human bonds which will ensure older Americans an active and honored place in our families, our communities, and our Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the month of May, 1973, as Senior Citizens Month.

I invite the officials of the Federal, State, and local governments, leaders of voluntary and private organizations, and all Americans every-

where to join in appropriate recognition of OLDER AMERICANS IN ACTION during this month and throughout the coming year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-seventh.



PROCLAMATION 4204

Cancer Control Month, 1973

By the President of the United States of America

March 28, 1973

A Proclamation

The forces fighting cancer in America are being mobilized as never before in our history.

Under the National Cancer Program, authorized by the National Cancer Act of 1971, public and private resources are being marshaled in the most intensive campaign ever waged against malignant disease.

I have on numerous occasions expressed my strong, personal commitment to the attack on cancer. Cancer is now killing Americans at the rate of 350,000 a year and causing untold suffering for many others. Everything that can effectively be done to find better ways of detecting, treating, and ultimately preventing cancer must be done so that we can substantially reduce its impact.

As a means of giving continued emphasis to the cancer problem, the Congress, by a joint resolution of March 28, 1938 (52 Stat. 148), requested the President to issue annually a proclamation setting aside the month of April as Cancer Control Month.

36 USC 150.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 1973, as Cancer Control Month, and I invite the Governors of the States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the appropriate officials of all other areas under the United States flag to issue similar proclamations.

To give new emphasis to this serious problem, and to encourage the determination of the American people to meet it, I also ask the medical and health professions, the communications industries, and all other interested persons and groups to unite during this appointed time in