

ter of these operators had received any kind of boating education. Through the observance of National Safe Boating Week, 1986, all Americans should be alerted to the importance of learning the rules of safe boating.

In recognition of the need for boating safety, the Congress, by joint resolution approved June 4, 1958, as amended (36 U.S.C. 161), authorized and requested the President to proclaim annually the week commencing on the first Sunday in June as "National Safe Boating Week."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning June 1, 1986, as National Safe Boating Week. I also invite the Governors of the States, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa, and the Mayor of the District of Columbia to provide for the observance of this week.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and tenth.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5439 of February 7, 1986

Small Business Week, 1986

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

The business of America begins with small business—millions of men and women, bold and imaginative self-starters, seizing opportunities and providing the jobs that help to ensure that our Nation will remain economically strong and free.

The flexibility of small business people is exemplified by their willingness to adapt to change, their determination to test untapped markets for new products and services, and their ability to contribute to the competitive marketplace in such a way as to improve efficiency, thus benefitting the consumer and spurring economic growth. Nothing characterizes the American economy better than our 14 million small businesses. They should be a source of pride for all Americans.

It is especially gratifying that in recent years greater numbers of young Americans are preparing for careers in independent business. Their innovative entrepreneurial spirit has brought a new excitement to the campus and to the marketplace. All Americans can take hope from their optimism, their creativity, and their impressive achievements.

This year, thousands of business owners will express their views at State preparatory sessions for the National White House Conference on Small Business—an example of free enterprise at its best. The recommendations prepared by the delegates to the National White House Conference in August will help us in formulating a small business agenda designed to make sure that our economy continues to grow and to prosper. All Americans benefit when small business is the force behind a vigorous and expanding economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of May 18 through May 24, 1986,