

contributions, together with their vibrant customs and celebrations, enliven and enrich our land.

As we move into the 21st century, American Indians and Alaska Natives will play a vital role in maintaining our Nation's strength and prosperity. Almost half of America's Native American tribal leaders have served in the United States Armed Forces, following in the footsteps of their forebears who distinguished themselves during the World Wars and the conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf.

Their patriotism again appeared after the September 11 attacks, as American Indian law enforcement officers volunteered to serve in air marshal programs. On the local level, American Indians and Alaska Natives are strengthening their communities through education and business development, opening the doors to opportunity, and contributing to a brighter future for all.

My Administration will continue to work with tribal governments on a sovereign to sovereign basis to provide Native Americans with new economic and educational opportunities. Indian education programs will remain a priority, so that no American child, including no Native American child, is left behind. We will protect and honor tribal sovereignty and help to stimulate economic development in reservation communities. We will work with the American Indians and Alaska Natives to preserve their freedoms, as they practice their religion and culture.

During National American Indian Heritage Month, I call on all Americans to learn more about the history and heritage of the Native peoples of this great land. Such actions reaffirm our appreciation and respect for their traditions and way of life and can help to preserve an important part of our culture for generations yet to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2001 as National American Indian Heritage Month. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

GEORGE W. BUSH

**Proclamation 7501 of November 13, 2001**

**National Farm-City Week, 2001**

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

As fall harvesting occurs and Americans gather with family and friends during Thanksgiving to share holiday meals, we celebrate our Nation's farmers and ranchers who provide us with abundant agricultural products,

and we recognize all of those who help get those food products from the farm to our tables.

The American agricultural industry is the leading global provider of food. Its remarkable rates of production are a continuing tribute to the ingenuity, diligence, and creativity of our country's farmers and ranchers. But agriculture is not just one industry among many—it is the very heart of our economy. The aggregate output of our food industry is unparalleled in human history. This enormous production makes farmers and ranchers key contributors to the collective wealth of our country. Their extraordinary efforts produce foodstuffs not just for our land but for the world, and they are driven by the American virtues of independence, industry, innovation, and sacrifice.

Our Nation's farmers and ranchers depend upon a complex chain of interrelationships with urban workers to get their products to national and world markets. Shippers, processors, marketers, tradespeople, grocers, truck drivers, food service providers, inspectors, researchers, and scientists are all part of the formula that feeds our land and the world. These urban/agriculture partnerships serve as catalysts for our overall commercial success; and their continued development is essential to sustaining our prosperity.

As we reflect upon the important role these partnerships play in the strength and success of our great Nation, we remember those who devote their lives to meeting an essential national and worldwide need. We are blessed by our agricultural abundance, by the committed and caring farmers and ranchers who strive to provide all we need to feed our people and the people of the world, and by all of those who help accomplish this important undertaking.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 16 through November 22, 2001, as National Farm-City Week. I call upon all Americans, in rural and urban communities alike, to join in recognizing the accomplishments of our farms and ranches, and the hard-working individuals who produce an abundance of affordable, quality agricultural goods that strengthen and enrich our country.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

GEORGE W. BUSH