

Proclamation 5910 of November 18, 1988

National Adoption Week, 1988

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The family, society's most fundamental unit, is part of God's design for human happiness. Belonging to a family is a natural and vital component of life, and every child deserves to be a member of a loving and nurturing family. For many children, this becomes possible through life in an adoptive family. That is good reason for all Americans to celebrate adoption and to commend and cooperate with those in the private sector and public service who work to find loving, lasting homes for waiting youngsters.

For some children, the waiting is much too long. More than 30,000 children now in foster care are in need of permanent homes. Most of these fine youngsters have special needs; some are of school age, in sibling groups, members of minorities, or affected by physical, mental, or emotional disabilities. But all of them have two things in common—they need families of their own, and they have great love to offer new parents. We can all learn much from the wonderful experiences of adoptive families already blessed with special-needs adoptive children.

We know, however, that the waiting is long for many prospective parents as well. Thousands of marriages in our country are childless, and many families are anxious to adopt. Many single people also desire to know the happiness of adoption. Adoption brings immeasurable joy to adopted children and adoptive parents alike. It also gives us cause for hope—that more youngsters will find lasting homes and that ever more Americans will find within themselves the generosity, courage, and love to make adoption their personal alternative to the cruelty of abortion. Prolife pregnancy counseling centers exist in cities and towns across our land to help mothers choose life for their unborn infants. These mothers give their babies not only the gift of birth but also the gift of a bright future with a loving adoptive family. These brave women, and those who decide to raise their babies themselves, deserve our admiration, friendship, and help while they are expecting and after.

There is more each of us can do to encourage adoption, from making our neighbors and communities aware of this option to making room in our own homes for special-needs children and adoptive infants. As a Nation, we must continue to promote adoption and to eliminate barriers to it. We must also offer our appreciation and encouragement to the millions of our fellow citizens—such as adoption caseworkers, foster care supervisors, judges, lawyers, clergy and religious, physicians, teachers, pregnancy counselors, and countless volunteers—who help children and families with adoption. In this way we can aid more and more Americans in discovering the special joy of building a family through adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, 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 the week of November 20 through November 26, 1988, as National Adoption Week.

I call upon all Americans to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirteenth.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5911 of November 19, 1988

To Implement Changes to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

1. Section 1204(a) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (the Act) (P.L. 100-418; 19 U.S.C. 3004(a)) enacts the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (the HTS). Section 1204(b) (19 U.S.C. 3004(b)) confers authority upon the President to proclaim such modifications to the HTS as are consistent with the standards applied in converting the Tariff Schedules of the United States (TSUS) (19 U.S.C. 1202) into the format of the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) and are necessary or appropriate to implement: (1) future outstanding staged rate reductions; (2) the applicable provisions of statutes enacted, Executive actions taken, and final judicial decisions rendered, after January 1, 1988, and before January 1, 1989; and (3) such technical rectifications as the President considers necessary.

2. Pursuant to the terms of Section 1204(b)(1) of the Act, I have determined that certain modifications to the HTS are necessary or appropriate in order to implement the future outstanding staged rate reductions for products of countries entitled to most-favored-nation treatment, as set forth in Annex I to this Proclamation; the future outstanding staged rate reductions for products of Israel, as set forth in Annex II to this Proclamation; and the applicable provisions of statutes enacted and Executive actions taken after January 1, 1988, and before January 1, 1989, along with certain necessary technical rectifications, all of which are set forth in Annex IV to this Proclamation.

3. In Proclamations 5779 of March 23, 1988 (53 FR 9850), and 5805 of April 29, 1988 (53 FR 15785), I terminated preferential tariff treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) (19 U.S.C. 2461 *et seq.*) for articles that are eligible for such treatment and that are imported from Bahrain, Bermuda, Brunei Darussalam, Nauru, Hong Kong, the Republic of Korea, Panama, Singapore, or Taiwan, and I modified the general headnotes and other provisions of the TSUS to reflect such terminations. In Proclamation 5787 of March 31, 1988 (53 FR 11031), I also modified the TSUS to reflect the decisions made in the 1987 annual review of the GSP. Further, to carry forward these decisions into the nomenclature of the HTS, pursuant to Sections 1204(b)(1) and 1211(b) of the Act, and consistent with the standards to be applied in