

Proclamation 6019 of September 13, 1989

National Historically Black Colleges Week, 1989

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Our Nation's historically Black colleges and universities have long been a symbol of hope and a door to advancement for Black Americans. Committed to equal opportunity and academic excellence, these institutions have offered minority students the chance to receive a quality education. Thousands of young people, many of them from disadvantaged families, have graduated from historically Black colleges and pursued distinguished careers in education, law, medicine, engineering, business, the arts, and the military.

In the past, historically Black colleges and universities offered Black Americans their best, and often their only, opportunity to obtain a higher education. Today, the legal barriers that led to the creation of separate schools for Black students have been struck down by the Courts. Nevertheless, historically Black colleges and universities continue to make vital contributions to American education, adding to the diversity and caliber of academic institutions in the United States.

By an Executive order issued on April 28, 1989, the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities was established to advise the President and the Secretary of Education on strengthening these valued institutions. The Executive order directed Federal agencies to devise ways to increase the ability of historically Black colleges and universities to participate in Federally funded programs. It also underscored the importance of increasing private sector support for these schools through such devices and activities as matching funds programs, management assistance, technical development, and curriculum planning.

Historically Black colleges and universities not only enable talented young people to grow in knowledge, but also remind all Americans of our obligation to uphold the principles of justice and equality enshrined in our Constitution. They deserve our appreciation and support. In recognition of the many contributions that these schools and their graduates have made to our society, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 109, has designated the period beginning September 11 and ending September 15, 1989, as "National Historically Black Colleges Week" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the period beginning September 11, 1989, and ending September 15, 1989, as National Historically Black Colleges Week. I urge all Americans to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities as an expression of their support for these important educational institutions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-

nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Editorial note: For the President's remarks of Sept. 13, 1989, on signing Proclamation 6019, see the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 25, p. 1365).

Proclamation 6020 of September 13, 1989

National D.A.R.E. Day, 1989

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Project D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) is a collaborative drug and alcohol abuse prevention effort targeted for American students in kindergarten through junior high. Recognizing the tremendous peer pressure placed upon children to try illegal drugs and alcohol, the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles Unified School District launched this innovative program in 1983. Taught by veteran uniformed police officers who know the dangers of substance abuse and who have witnessed firsthand the devastation it causes, the D.A.R.E. program is designed to teach vulnerable children how to resist the temptation to experiment with drugs and alcohol.

The officers who conduct the D.A.R.E. program follow a curriculum that helps students develop a greater sense of self-esteem and self-control. The D.A.R.E. curriculum also teaches students how to analyze and resist seductive images of drug and alcohol use, whether those images are presented by peers or the popular media; and it helps them recognize the consequences of their decisions.

The D.A.R.E. program reaches out to parents as well, helping them to understand the pressures faced by their children and showing them how to recognize symptoms of drug and alcohol abuse. Parents are informed of positive and effective approaches they may use to help their children with these serious problems.

Since its inception just 6 years ago, word of the success of the D.A.R.E. program—not only in preventing substance abuse, but also in improving students' grades, reducing gang activity, and promoting respect for police officers—has spread throughout the United States. Today, the D.A.R.E. program is conducted in nearly every State. The program is also being implemented at Department of Defense dependents schools, at Bureau of Indian Affairs schools, and by United States Park Police and Rangers in communities located near National Park units. New Zealand, Canada, and Australia have also begun to use D.A.R.E. as part of their drug and alcohol abuse prevention strategies.

In recognition of this successful anti-drug program and the cooperation it has fostered among students, parents, law enforcement personnel, and educators, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 276, has designated September 14, 1989, as "National D.A.R.E. Day" and has author-