

of May 3, 1791. I call upon all Americans to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6287 of May 3, 1991

National Tourism Week, 1991

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

From coast to coast the United States is marked by an abundance of beautiful public parks and fascinating historic landmarks, as well as a variety of recreational and cultural attractions. These features, coupled with the hospitality of our people and the high quality of American travel services and accommodations, make the United States the world's number one tourist destination.

Tourism and business travel not only provide rewarding educational opportunities for individuals but also contribute to the Nation's economic prosperity. The travel and tourism industry is America's second largest private employer, directly or indirectly supporting millions of jobs across the country. According to the United States Department of Commerce, the industry is also our largest export earner. With nearly \$350 billion spent annually by all travellers and tourists in the United States, travel and tourism account for about 6.5 percent of our gross national product.

While travel and tourism enrich virtually every community in which they thrive, they are especially important to rural America. More and more, Americans and international visitors are travelling to rural America, not only to explore our forests, parks, and recreation areas, but also to enjoy a respite from the hustle and bustle of urban life. Businesses are beginning to discover the many advantages of holding retreats and seminars in the country. All of this activity brings thousands of dollars into rural economies, benefitting small businesses and entire communities alike.

Both in rural areas and in our cities, the revenue generated by travel and tourism helps to spur needed development—including the building of schools, where children can learn about our Nation's past and acquire the knowledge and skills needed to enjoy a bright future.

Students can benefit significantly from travel in the United States, as can everyone who recognizes it as a wonderful learning opportunity. Indeed, the many historic and cultural landmarks preserved across America help to tell our Nation's story. Monuments and museums, battlefields and nature trails—all trace the rich history of America's native peoples and the immigrants who helped to make this land the home of freedom and opportunity as well. Moreover, in today's shops and mar-

kets, in our courthouses and legislative halls, visitors can see American free enterprise and democracy at work. This year is a most exciting time to rediscover America, since we celebrate the 200th year of our Bill of Rights.

This week, let us honor all those Americans who work in the travel and tourism industry—particularly those who are striving to promote tourism in rural areas and to increase America's share of the world tourism market. Each of us benefits, in so many ways, from their year-round efforts.

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 102, has designated the week beginning on the first Sunday in May as "National Tourism 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 week of May 5 through May 11, 1991, as National Tourism Week. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6288 of May 6, 1991

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month, 1991 and 1992

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

With characteristic clarity and force, Walt Whitman wrote: "The United States themselves are essentially the greatest poem . . . Here is not merely a nation but a teeming nation of nations." Those immortal words eloquently describe America's ethnic diversity—a diversity we celebrate with pride during Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

The Asian/Pacific American heritage is marked by its richness and depth. The world marvels at the wealth of ancient art and philosophy, the fine craftsmanship, and the colorful literature and folklore that have sprung from Asia and the Pacific islands. Whether they trace their roots to places like Cambodia, Vietnam, Korea, the Philippines, and the Marshall Islands or cherish their identities as natives of Hawaii and Guam, all Asian and Pacific Americans can take pride in this celebration of their heritage.

By preserving the time-honored customs and traditions of their ancestral homelands, Americans of Asian and Pacific descent have greatly enriched our Nation's culture. They have also made many outstanding contributions to American history. Indeed, this country's westward expansion and economic development were greatly influenced by thousands of Chinese and other Asians who immigrated during the 19th