

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 22, 1991, as National Maritime Day. I encourage all Americans to observe this day by displaying the flag of the United States at their homes and other suitable places, and I request that all ships sailing under the American flag dress ship on that day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 17 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 6295 of May 17, 1991

National Huntington's Disease Awareness Month, 1991

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Appearing without warning, Huntington's disease is a hereditary, progressive, neurodegenerative disorder that gradually robs its victims of their intellect, their emotional well-being, and their control of movement. The Department of Health and Human Services reports that approximately 25,000 people in the United States have this disease, and that another 125,000 are considered at risk of developing it. Each child of an affected parent has a chance of inheriting the Huntington's gene and developing the disease.

The onset of Huntington's disease varies, usually striking after the age of 30, although signs of the disease can appear in children. However, the effects are always tragic: as the disease progresses, its victims suffer increasingly from such symptoms as slurred speech, dementia, and writhing movements known as chorea. Because victims in the later stages of Huntington's disease invariably require total personal care, affected families often bear heavy financial costs in addition to the heartache of watching a mother, father, sibling, or child slowly deteriorate.

Fortunately, however, years of research have helped to increase our understanding of Huntington's disease. Thanks to advances in molecular genetics, individuals at risk can now undergo testing to determine whether they carry a genetic marker or "signpost" for the Huntington's disease gene. Today researchers across the country, supported primarily by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, are continuing their efforts to identify the exact location of this gene. Once the gene is located, they will be able to devise new medical treatments for Huntington's disease and, we hope, ultimately find a cure.

To enhance public awareness of Huntington's disease and to underscore our concern for its victims, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 127, has designated May 1991 as "National Huntington's Disease Awareness Month" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of May 1991 as National Huntington's Disease Awareness Month. I encourage all Americans to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth 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 6296 of May 17, 1991

National Defense Transportation Day and National Transportation Week, 1991

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

Our Nation's transportation system has not only enabled the American people to enjoy unparalleled mobility, it has also enabled us to benefit from a high degree of economic prosperity and military preparedness. Facilitating the safe, efficient movement of workers to jobs and goods to markets, our transportation system is vital to the Nation's economic productivity and competitiveness. Allowing for the prompt, large-scale deployment of manpower and equipment, it also ensures our ability to respond effectively to national emergencies.

The recent war in the Persian Gulf underscored both the importance and the effectiveness of America's transportation system. Working with government agencies and with various carriers, thousands of civilians made a substantial contribution to the mobilization of our Armed Forces during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. For example, our oceangoing Ready Reserve Force of ships and our Civil Reserve Air Fleet of commercial airline aircraft were called upon for the first time. At the request of the Department of Defense, the Department of Transportation activated more than 70 Ready Reserve Fleet ships, crewed by U.S. merchant seamen, to assist in the delivery of supplies and equipment to our troops. Under the Civil Reserve Air Fleet program, 26 commercial air carriers made 3,800 flights, carrying some 382,000 people and 163,000 tons of equipment and supplies. Throughout the conflict in the Gulf, our national highway and rail systems likewise provided timely delivery of materials to airports and seaports—including more than 25,000 rail carloads of military equipment and munitions.

As much as we depend on a safe, convenient, and effective transportation system, such a transportation system depends on a sound infrastructure—a network of well-built and well-maintained roads, bridges, airports, seaports, and railroad facilities. Our National Defense Transportation Policy, issued last year, has been designed with this fact in mind. Through this Policy—and through our proposed Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1991—we will strengthen our investment in the Nation's transportation infrastructure. Wise investment in maintaining and improving this infrastructure will help to create jobs while up-