

fort. Our ongoing progress attests to the fundamental vitality and openness of our free enterprise system and to our abiding commitment to civil rights for all. Every American needs a chance to contribute. Our work is far from finished. America needs the continued leadership of every citizen to fulfill the promise of the Americans with Disabilities Act and related laws.

The Congress, by joint resolution approved August 11, 1945, as amended (36 U.S.C. 155) has called for the designation of October of each year as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month." This month is a special time for all Americans to recognize the tremendous potential of citizens with disabilities and to renew our commitment to full inclusion and equal opportunity for them, as for every citizen.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 1993 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. I call on all Americans to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities that affirm our determination to fulfill both the letter and the spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6606 of October 7, 1993

Country Music Month, 1993

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

Country music is one of America's unique musical forms. Our immigrant ancestors from Great Britain and Ireland brought their tunes and melodies with them, and those songs were reshaped by life and landscape in our new Nation. In Appalachia, the Piedmonts, the Ozarks, the Mississippi Delta, and the Pine Barrens, those songs and ballads were forged from the spirit of working men and women, farmers and field laborers, miners and railroad workers, and pioneers crossing the Great Plains.

They blended with songs of African Americans, Mexican Americans, and Cajuns. Out of this wellspring came Western swing, honky-tonk, blues, gospel, and shape note music, creating a family of many musical cousins. Country music is not one voice, but many, irresistible to the ear and to any heart that likes to sing. The instruments that accompany the songs are also from our ancestors of many lands—the dulcimer from Germany, the fiddle from all of Europe, the banjo from Africa.

Country music is about the American story. It fuses the traditions of many cultures and celebrates what makes us Americans. Country lyrics tell tales of life and love, joy and heartbreak, toil and celebration. From early folk singers like Woody Guthrie to such legends as Roy Acuff,

Hank Williams, and Patsy Cline to today's bright stars—the singers all let loose the soulful music inside their hearts. In its rhythms and words, we can hear the lonesome sound, as well as the festive spirit, of our beloved land.

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 102, has designated the month of October as "Country Music Month." I urge all Americans to join me in recognizing the role that country music has played in shaping our cultural heritage.

Country Music Month is a time to recognize the contributions of singers, songwriters, musicians, and all in the industry who work to bring us the very best of country music and dance. Throughout the month of October, let us celebrate country music in our homes and towns across the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 1993 as Country Music Month.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6607 of October 8, 1993

Leif Erikson Day, 1993

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

At this time every year, Americans celebrate Leif Erikson Day. In so doing, we commemorate the voyages of the great Norse explorer who first set foot on North America nearly a thousand years ago. At the same time, we also celebrate the enduring ties between America and the Nordic countries and take note of the outstanding contributions that Nordic Americans have made to the United States. In a sense, the bonds that Leif Erikson—son of Iceland, grandson of Norway—forged continue unbroken today. We maintain an impressive exchange of people and ideas with the Nordic countries.

The early settlers inherited an adventurous spirit that had led their ancestors from Scandinavia to much of Europe and into the Atlantic. In addition, these adventurers started from lands that were already half-way points between the Old World and the New. Even today, the Nordic countries, which possess a commitment to open, democratic societies and to peaceful relations among nations, serve as links between Europe and the rest of the world.

At a time when the relations between Europe and America are being redefined, the Nordic countries retain their important role in fostering democracy, transatlantic cooperation, and an open trading system. Their many contributions to international diplomacy, humanitarian assistance, and peacekeeping in the world's trouble spots set a high standard that the rest of the world greatly admires. Americans who