

ing the birth of FHA were formidable, so are the challenges facing our Nation today.

We recognize the importance of a decent home and suitable living environment as a national goal for every American family. The contributions of the FHA toward the attainment of that goal are a crucial step in helping to save countless people from a lonely, often frightening existence. Working together, we can restore hope and dignity to the lives of the many Americans who have no place to call home.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, 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 June 20 through June 27, 1994, as "National Housing Week," and I call upon the people of the United States and interested groups and organizations to observe this week with appropriate activities and events. Let us renew the commitment made 60 years ago and rededicate our Nation to the unfinished business of housing and community development for all Americans.

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

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6703 of June 21, 1994

50th Anniversary of the GI Bill of Rights

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

Fifty years ago, on June 22, 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944—"The GI Bill of Rights"—described by many historians as America's greatest single piece of social legislation from that time period. President Roosevelt said that the passage of the GI Bill gave "emphatic notice to the men and women of our Armed Forces that the American people do not intend to let them down."

That promise to meet the needs of a highly trained and motivated military was well kept by the original GI Bill and has been renewed and revised with each succeeding generation of veterans. Today, those guarantees of assistance—from education to home purchase, from job training to medical treatment—are part of every veteran's expectations. They extend beyond active duty service personnel, to include reservists and surviving spouses, as well.

The GI Bill has made life better for all Americans. As it eased the transition of millions of World War II veterans into civilian life, it paved the way for an unparalleled period of U.S. economic growth and development, while reaffirming the vital importance of our Nation's Armed Forces.

GI Bill home loan provisions underwrote the largest housing boom in our country's history. Now, most Americans may reasonably look forward to owning their own homes at some time during their lives.

GI Bill educational benefits spurred nearly 8 million World War II veterans on to higher education. It transformed the Nation's education infrastructure and made college education and technical training realistic options after high school for those who may otherwise not have been able to afford these advantages.

This half-century investment of more than \$65 billion has been repaid to the American taxpayer time and time again. The Nation has been enhanced by the increased earning power and expanded economic activity directly attributable to the GI Bill. It is gratifying to note that our veterans have utilized these benefits to the fullest extent. Their energy, initiative, and ability have allowed them to make the most of this enduring promise. As they gave their best to the Nation while they were in uniform, they also gave us their best as civilians with the help of the GI Bill.

It is to them and to the pioneers who created and crafted the original GI Bill legislation during the dark days of World War II, that we as a Nation owe our heartfelt gratitude this day. This measure opened the door to the American dream of opportunity for advancement to an entire generation of young Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, 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 June 22, 1994, as "GI Bill of Rights Day" celebrating the 50th anniversary of enactment of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 and the subsequent legislation that has extended its promise. I encourage all Americans, as well as civic, veterans, educational, business, and news media organizations, to join me in honoring this true American success story and those veterans and visionaries who made it possible.

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

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6704 of June 30, 1994

To Modify Duty-Free Treatment Under the Generalized System of Preferences and for Other Purposes

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

1. Pursuant to title V of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended ("1974 Act") (19 U.S.C. 2461 *et seq.*), the President may designate specified articles provided for in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States ("HTS") as eligible for preferential tariff treatment under the