

Millions of people around the world remember with gratitude his determined leadership as the successful Commander in Chief of America's Armed Forces during this century's most terrible war. It is difficult to imagine any individual other than Franklin Roosevelt who would have been able to oversee the war effort—not only beating back the spreading stain of totalitarianism by achieving decisive military victories, but also adroitly maintaining unity among our allies. As the world moved under a deepening shadow of violence and terror, FDR displayed an unwavering personal character and resolve that inspired faith among the American people.

And even though FDR did not survive to witness the end of the war he helped so much to win, he nonetheless knew he had set our country's sights in the right direction by dedicating his public career to a safer, stronger America—citizens living and working together in a community of fairness, harmony, and peace. As the final words of his Four Freedoms speech expressed: "To that high concept there can be no end save victory."

After her husband's death, Eleanor Roosevelt continued the vigorous advocacy work she and FDR had begun in the White House, serving on the United States Delegation to the United Nations, acting as Chairperson of the Human Rights Commission during the drafting of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the U.N. in 1948, working as a member of the National Advisory Committee of the Peace Corps for President Kennedy, and finally serving as Chair of President Kennedy's Commission on the Status of Women. By the time of her death in 1962, she had earned the unofficial title of First Lady of the World, reaffirming the virtues to which she and her husband had dedicated their lives.

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 October 1996 as Roosevelt History Month. I call upon government officials, educators, labor leaders, employers, and the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

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

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6929 of October 4, 1996

National Disability Employment Awareness Month, 1996

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

As we rapidly approach the 21st century, we are entering an age dominated by information and technology, the microchip and the global marketplace. We can't afford to waste the talents of a single person if we are to succeed in this exciting and challenging new world, and peo-

ple with disabilities have a major role to play in helping us to achieve a dynamic, productive work force in a united community.

In the darkest days of World War II, the American people looked to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, a person with a disability, for leadership and strength. Today, as college presidents and scientists, world-class athletes and physicians, our citizens with disabilities make their own invaluable contributions to our Nation's strength. From Main Street to Wall Street, they have performed successfully at every level of business and government, demonstrating in large ways and small that they can meet the same challenges as everyone else.

We can be proud of the great progress we have made in eliminating overt discrimination. Leaders of business and industry, veterans service organizations, and labor, as well as community leaders from all walks of life, have worked together to implement the Americans with Disabilities Act, which bans discrimination in recruitment, interviewing, hiring, and advancement.

Yet, 50 years after President Roosevelt's death, too many doors to employment remain closed to individuals with disabilities. We must work to eradicate more subtle forms of discrimination. We must make sure that our words of support for empowerment and inclusion continue to be reflected in our policies. It is up to all of us—employers, labor, educators, veterans, people with disabilities, and government—to stay the course until every barrier against individuals with disabilities comes down.

In recognition of the great potential of people with disabilities, and to encourage all Americans to work toward their full participation in our work force, the Congress, by Joint Resolution, approved August 11, 1945, as amended (36 U.S.C. 155), has designated October of each year as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 1996 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. I call upon government officials, educators, labor leaders, employers, and the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities that reaffirm 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 fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-first.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON