In recognition of the importance of the ongoing fight against cardiovascular disease, the Congress, by Joint Resolution approved December 20, 1963 (77 Stat. 843; 36 U.S.C. 101b), has requested that the President issue an annual proclamation designating February as "American Heart Month."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim February 2000 as American Heart Month. I invite the Governors of the States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, officials of other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, and the American people to join me in reaffirming our commitment to combating cardiovascular disease and strokes.

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

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 7272 of February 11, 2000

National Consumer Protection Week, 2000

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Americans have long enjoyed shopping from the comfort of their homes. Door-to-door sales and mail-order catalogs have given consumers the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of products while saving precious time for family and personal interests. As we move into the digital age, the Internet and other information technologies have made electronic commerce possible, and on-line shopping is opening doors for consumers, established retailers, and small entrepreneurs across the Nation. With these opportunities, however, come certain risks for home shoppers. Advances in telecommunications and marketing technology bring new opportunities for unfair, deceptive, or fraudulent practices that target consumers where they live. It is now easier than ever for perpetrators of fraud to reach shoppers in their homes; consequently, it is more important than ever that consumers know their rights, understand the risks, and know to whom they can turn for recourse.

While there are risks to home shopping, including unwanted solicitations, ill-advised purchases, and failure to deliver items purchased, consumers can protect themselves against these dangers by taking basic, commonsense precautions. Home shoppers should ascertain the seller’s location and reputation; give out personal information only if they know who is collecting it, why it is being collected, and how it will be used; and report problems that they cannot resolve with the vendor.

In order to protect consumers, the Federal Trade Commission, the Department of Justice, the Consumer Federation of America, the American Association of Retired Persons, the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators, and the National Association of Attorneys General have joined forces to inform Americans about their rights
as home shoppers, about merchant responsibilities, and about how to
enjoy safely the benefits of shopping from home. This information is
available in writing, by telephone, and on-line, helping to educate con-
sumers about such issues as how to stop unwanted telemarketing or
mail-order solicitations and when to provide private information to an
on-line business.

I encourage all Americans to take advantage of this opportunity to
learn more about safe shopping from home. By becoming wise and
well-informed consumers, we can reduce the incidence of fraud and
deception in the marketplace.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United
States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Con-
stitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim Feb-
ruary 14 through February 20, 2000, as National Consumer Protection
Week. I call upon government officials, industry leaders, consumer ad-
vocates, and the American people to participate in programs promoting
safe and reliable shopping from home and to raise public awareness
about the dangers of deceptive and fraudulent practices targeting home
shoppers.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh
day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Inde-
pendence of the United States of America the two hundred and twen-
ty-fourth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 7273 of February 16, 2000

To Facilitate Positive Adjustment to Competition From
Imports of Certain Steel Wire Rod

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

1. On July 12, 1999, the United States International Trade Commission
(USITC) transmitted to the President a report on its investigation under
section 202 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "Trade Act")
(19 U.S.C. 2252), with respect to imports of certain steel wire rod pro-
vided for in subheadings 7213.91, 7213.99, 7227.20 and 7227.90.60 of
the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS). The USITC
commissioners were equally divided with respect to the determination
required under section 202(b) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2252(b)) re-
garding whether such steel wire rod is being imported into the United
States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of seri-
ous injury, or threat of serious injury, to the domestic industry produc-
ing a like or directly competitive article.

2. Section 330(d)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the "Tariff
Act") (19 U.S.C. 1330(d)(1)) provides that when the USITC is required
to determine under section 202(b) of the Trade Act whether increased
imports of an article are a substantial cause of serious injury, or the
threat thereof, and the commissioners voting are equally divided with
respect to such determination, then the determination agreed upon by