

36 USC 165.

Congress authorized this poison prevention campaign in a joint resolution of September 26, 1961 (75 Stat. 681), and requested the President to issue annually a proclamation designating the third week in March as National Poison Prevention Week.

Hopefully, as year-round preventive activities are increased even more lives may be saved and serious injuries averted.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning March 16, 1969, as National Poison Prevention Week.

I direct the appropriate agencies of the Federal Government, and I invite State and local governments and organizations, to participate actively in programs designed to promote better protection against accidental poisonings, particularly as they relate to young children.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-third.



### Proclamation 3894

RED CROSS MONTH, 1969

By the President of the United States of America

#### A Proclamation

For more than a century, men and women of good will have recognized one symbol as being representative of human compassion.

That symbol, revered throughout the world, is a banner bearing a red cross on a field of white. Under it, citizens of all nations strive to bring aid and comfort to the stricken, to heal the sick, and to serve those in distress.

As a member of that world fraternity, our American Red Cross helps each of us to help our fellow man.

Through its concern and aid for members of our Armed Forces in 30 countries around the globe, the Red Cross last year gave help to great numbers of servicemen and their families.

Each year, the Red Cross brings emergency aid and long-range assistance to victims of major catastrophies, and help to sufferers of thousands of local disasters. For the past several years it has been intensifying its efforts to involve all segments of society in the great work of volunteering to help others.

Every day thousands of hospitals and physicians look to the Red Cross to provide life-saving blood and blood products for their patients. Nearly fifty percent of all the blood used in this country comes from this source.

Each year millions of Americans of all ages participate in Red Cross classes, learning the skills of first aid, home care of the sick and injured, swimming and lifesaving.

More than two million trained volunteers devote their time and abilities to working with patients in military and civilian hospitals, clinics, and homes for the aged, with youth, and in community programs seeking to meet the needs of disadvantaged people.

February 20, 1969

To continue its mission, the American Red Cross must rely upon us, the people of America, from whom it receives its sole support. In March 1969, the Red Cross will ask for our help. We owe it to our communities and our country to respond generously to that appeal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, and Honorary Chairman of the American National Red Cross, do hereby designate March 1969 as Red Cross Month. I urge all Americans to maintain the strength of the Red Cross by volunteering their time when they can, and by contributing as generously as they can.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twentieth day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-third.



### Proclamation 3895

SAVE YOUR VISION WEEK, 1969

By the President of the United States of America

February 22, 1969

#### A Proclamation

Eyes are too precious to neglect, and every individual or family should take every precaution to protect the gift of sight.

If detected and treated early, most disorders that might reduce vision or cause blindness can be stopped before the eyes are seriously damaged.

Periodic examinations will reveal such disorders, and I urge every adult who has not had an eye examination in the past two years to arrange for such an examination promptly. A re-examination should be had at the first indication of visual defect or impairment.

Other preventive measures can be taken to protect sight. Proper illumination in the home and at work is essential. And, with a little forethought and caution, accidents to the eyes can be avoided—for example, by wearing protective glasses or safety goggles when engaged in hazardous sport or work, and by shielding the eyes from strong sunlight or harmful radiation in any form.

Where there are children, special precautions must be taken: making eye examinations a routine part of health care; immunizing against diseases, such as measles, which affect sight; teaching children to care for their eyes as they are taught to care for their teeth; and eliminating hazardous substances, tools, or toys which may cause eye injuries.

Effective preservation of vision requires not only individual and family responsibility but also an active interest by all citizens in the community's efforts to bring better eye care to all who need it—to the children in the schools, and to the men and women laboring on the farms and in the factories. We must encourage and support medical research to find the causes and cures of visual disorders; support those groups which help the visually handicapped to obtain medical care, education, and rehabilitation so that they may live independent and significant lives; and support such organizations as Eye Banks which encourage the pledging of one's eyes for the future good.

To make our people more fully aware of the importance of sight-saving, the Congress by a joint resolution approved December 30, 1963