

PROCLAMATION 4245

National Employ the Handicapped Week, 1973

September 18, 1973

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

This country was founded upon a promise made to all of its people: that our government would work to assure every citizen a fair and equal start in the race of life. Implicit in this promise is the concept that a person has a right to compete for any job he is able to perform.

This promise has been kept for a great many of our people, but not for all. Too many handicapped persons—particularly young disabled veterans—are unable to find work.

Perhaps the greatest difficulty a handicapped person faces is not his own disability, but rather the attitudes of society concerning that disability. Yet handicapped people are able to perform a wide range of jobs with great skill and efficiency. The employer who hires the handicapped is not only helping them; he is also helping himself and his country.

Let us all work therefore to make good on the promise America has always held out to its people—allowing each person who is willing to work and who is qualified to work a fair chance to work.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, in accordance with a joint resolution of the Congress approved August 11, 1945, as amended (36 U.S.C. 155), do hereby proclaim the week of October 7, 1973, as National Employ the Handicapped Week.

I urge the Nation's Governors, mayors, and all other public officials, as well as leaders in every area of American life, to join with the handicapped themselves in making this observance a time of new awakening in our country to the value and the importance of employing handicapped men and women.

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



PROCLAMATION 4246

Johnny Horizon '76 Clean Up America Month

By the President of the United States of America

September 19, 1973

A Proclamation

While the Federal Government pursues its national responsibility to prevent pollution of our air, water and land resources, no contribution to a better environment can match the exercise of individual responsibility. We must recognize that environmental improvement and protection require the commitment and positive action of each and every American.

We can have clean air, clean water, beautiful, open forests and shores, but all these will not improve our environment if our immediate surroundings are cluttered and degraded. Our most precious environment is the area in which we live—our city streets and rural towns. Environmental awareness goes far beyond the improvement of what we commonly refer to as our natural resources.

The spirit with which we work to enhance our lives must be one of: "I'll help, too." To dramatize this spirit, the Congress has by House Joint Resolution 695, 93rd Congress, designated the period of September 15 to October 15, 1973 as "Johnny Horizon '76 Clean Up America Month" and requested the President to issue a proclamation calling for observance of this month.

Ante, p. 351.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim "Clean Up America Month," and ask our Nation's attention to the Johnny Horizon '76 environmental awareness and action program for America's 200th birthday and related Bicentennial activities. I urge representatives of business, industry, labor, government, civic groups and other citizens to join