

out of vanity or unfamiliarity with the elementary principles of proper vision care, millions of Americans continue to neglect their eyesight.

To remind all Americans of the importance of good vision to themselves and the Nation, and to encourage them to learn and practice the fundamentals of eye safety—including the need for regular professional examination—the Congress, by joint resolution (36 U.S.C. 196a),¹ has requested the President to issue annually a proclamation designating the first week in March as Save Your Vision Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning March 7, 1976, as Save Your Vision Week. I urge all Americans to mark this occasion by learning and practicing the safety measures appropriate for good eyesight. I call upon optometrists, ophthalmologists, and opticians, the communications media, and educators to join in public activities and programs to improve and protect the vision of Americans of all ages.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of February in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD

¹ EDITORIAL NOTE: The correct citation is 36 U.S.C. 169a.

Proclamation 4420

March 1, 1976

Law Day, U.S.A., 1976

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Liberty is the hallmark of the American experience—liberty from the tyranny of foreign domination and liberty from tyranny at home. To ensure our domestic liberty, based on our faith that all men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, the Constitution of the United States of America guarantees certain rights and privileges to every citizen. Among those are: freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of religion, the right to assemble and petition, and the right to due process of law.

Throughout our history, the preservation of those individual rights has been dependent upon our dedication to the rule of law.

To encourage the cultivation of that respect for law which is so vital to the spirit of democracy, the Congress, by Joint Resolution approved April 7, 1961 (75 Stat. 43, 36 U.S.C. 164), has requested the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to celebrate the first day of May as Law Day, U.S.A.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, invite the American people to celebrate Saturday, May 1, 1976, as Law Day, U.S.A., and to mark its observance with programs and ceremonies as befits our great heritage of 200 years of liberty and law.

I urge clergymen of all faiths to bring to public attention through sermons and suitable programs the moral and ethical dimensions of the law.

I urge also that schools, civic and service organizations, public bodies, libraries, the courts, the legal profession and the communications media participate in the observance of Law Day. And I call upon all public officials to display the flag of the United States on all government buildings on that day.

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

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4421

March 8, 1976

National Farm Safety Week, 1976

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As we celebrate our Bicentennial Year, we reflect upon those factors which have propelled us from a virtual wilderness to our present position of world leadership. Beyond question, the achievements of our agricultural community are among the most important of these factors.

Dedicated farmers and ranchers, in partnership with the scientific, technical, and business communities, have pushed agricultural efficiency and productivity to unparalleled heights. As a result, little more than four percent of our labor force is able to produce enough to make us the best-fed nation and to provide sustenance to countless millions around the world.

But it is not enough to honor our past. To meet the challenges of the future with confidence, we must be assured of an unfailing flow of agricultural products. The ability of agriculture to fulfill these needs depends not only on sophisticated technology, but also upon the removal of impediments to production. We must not relax our concern about the fact that accidents are a major drain upon the human and economic resources of our agricultural community. Although the death rate from accidents in agriculture is declining, we must continue to press for the elimination of every preventable mishap that diminishes the strength and productivity of our farmers and ranchers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week of July 25, 1976 through July 31, 1976, as National Farm Safety Week. I urge all who live and work on the Nation's farms and ranches to make safety an integral part of all daily activities on the job and at play, at home and on the highway. I also urge those who work with and serve agricultural producers to make a special commitment during our two-hundredth birthday year to the task of helping to make rural America a truly safe place in which to live and work. I call upon all Americans to remember that we are blessed with a strong and viable agriculture, and that we must also keep it safe for ourselves and future generations.