

A number of agencies have already taken important steps to eliminate barriers. The Veterans Administration, for example, has surveyed all of its 172 hospitals and has earmarked \$1.2 million for 86 barrier-removal projects in fiscal year 1979. The General Services Administration intends to obligate \$26 million between now and 1982 to retrofit many of its properties. I will continue to support such efforts.

But many barriers that block people from opportunity and fulfillment need the attention of State and local governments and the private sector. I herewith call upon all State and local governments and the private sector to join with the Federal Government in a partnership to eliminate barriers which limit full social participation by our disabled citizens. Only by working together as a Nation can we promote and provide full access to all of our citizens.

To encourage this national commitment, the Ninety-fifth Congress adopted House Joint Resolution 578 authorizing the President to proclaim the third weeks of May of 1978 and 1979 as National Architectural Barrier Awareness Week and to call for its appropriate observance.

92 Stat. 212.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the third week of May 1979 as National Architectural Barrier Awareness Week and ask all Americans to do all that lies within their power to remove all barriers—architectural, social, and psychological. Together we can make access a reality for all Americans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and third.

JIMMY CARTER

#### **Proclamation 4657 of April 11, 1979**

#### **Loyalty Day, 1979**

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

#### **A Proclamation**

In our country, loyalty has a deep and complex meaning. It does not refer to allegiance to the tenets of an ideological doctrine nor does it convey a blind faith in a single leader or political party. A respect for our flag is part of what we mean by loyalty, but the concept goes well beyond a reverence for our national symbols.

To the citizens of our country, loyalty means a devotion and a dedication to our democratic traditions of liberty and justice. It is an acknowledgement of our responsibilities and duties as citizens to nurture and preserve those freedoms. It also conveys a respect for our fellow citizens who have fought, and sometimes died, to establish and protect our country and our ideals.

To encourage the people of the United States to reflect on our democratic heritage and institutions, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved July 18, 1958 (72 Stat. 369) has designated May 1 of every year as Loyalty Day, and has requested the President to issue a proclamation inviting the people of the United States to observe that day with appropriate observances.

36 USC 162.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans to observe Tuesday, May 1, 1979, as Loyalty Day. I also ask the appropriate officials of the Government and all citizens to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and other fitting places.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and third.

JIMMY CARTER

**Proclamation 4658 of April 18, 1979**

**Older Americans Month, 1979**

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

**A Proclamation**

The older American embodies not only a lifetime of experience and accomplishment, but also invaluable and often unrecognized resources of talent, energy and wisdom. Our country's awareness of the contributions and potential of our older people has steadily grown in recent years, as an increasing number of Americans have shown that their later years can indeed be rewarding ones for themselves and their communities.

Yet for too many of our people, the later years are often wasted and miserable because of health problems. This year's theme for the May observance of Older Americans Month is "Better Health Through Better Care."

Health is defined by the World Health Organization as a "state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, not merely the absence of disease and infirmity." Good adequate health requires more than just the treatment of sickness and injury, though providing treatment is vital. Good health care must also include proper nutrition, preventive and health maintenance services, as well as provision for long-term care.

In older persons the interrelationship between physical and mental health is especially important. Mental health services for the elderly have been sadly lacking in this country. Active and satisfying lives are both dependent upon and necessary to maintaining the health of older Americans.

The accessibility of all types of health services is critically important to the elderly, and holding down the costs of both crisis-oriented and preventive services is essential if the real needs are to be met.

As we make greater use of the abilities of older Americans, and find ways to better meet their special needs, particularly in relation to health services, all of our people will benefit.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the month of May 1979 as Older Americans Month. I ask public officials at all levels, doctors, nurses, and other health professionals, and people of all ages, to promote better health care and social services for older people, and to undertake appropriate projects both on a public and on a personal level to ensure the best possible health for older people.