

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of Sept. in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

RONALD REAGAN

**Proclamation 4964 of September 13, 1982**

**National P.T.A. Membership Month, 1982**

*By the President of the United States of America*

*A Proclamation*

Our best research shows that both the supportive atmosphere parents create at home and the high expectations of motivated teachers will find positive expression in the academic achievements of students.

Within our parent-teacher associations across the Nation, the combined concern of parents and teachers focuses on encouraging excellence in the education of our children. The National Parent Teacher Association, representing over twenty-nine thousand State and local units with more than six million active members, is a volunteer organization that has made substantial contributions to that goal. The ultimate beneficiary is the Nation itself, through enhanced student achievement and a citizenry better prepared for its future.

In recognition of the important contributions made by the National P.T.A., the Congress by joint resolution (Public Law 97-154) has requested the President to issue an appropriate proclamation recognizing October 1982 as "National P.T.A. Membership Month."

*Ante, p. 13.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of October 1982 as "National P.T.A. Membership Month." I invite the Governors of the States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the officials of other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, and the American people to join me in recognizing and encouraging the efforts of the National P.T.A. on behalf of our children, and to observe such month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 13th. day of Sept. in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

RONALD REAGAN

**Proclamation 4965 of September 13, 1982**

**National Employ the Handicapped Week, 1982**

*By the President of the United States of America*

*A Proclamation*

People throughout our country are working to increase education, training, employment, accessible housing, and recreational opportunities for our disabled citizens.

Of these objectives, employment is one of the most important. To lead more successful lives, disabled Americans must be part of the work force. Progress has been made; many more employers are hiring these quality workers. These employers are part of the growing number who realize they are not "giving" someone a job, but increasing the value of their company or business by hiring a dedicated, skilled employee.

Despite these advances, employment of disabled men and women lags behind that of the general working-age population. There is an urgent need for the private sector to take the lead in offering jobs that provide individual dignity and enable disabled men and women to support their families. There is also a need for state and local governments to employ fresh approaches and renewed energy in cooperation with the private sector to expand handicapped employment opportunities, and for the Federal government to streamline regulations in order to afford maximum benefit for handicapped persons with a minimum of administrative burden.

We need to affirm the dignity and worth of all people in our society, whether or not they suffer from physical or mental disabilities, and we must firmly reject attitudes that deny the worth of handicapped individuals.

Congress has called for the designation of the first full week in October each year as National Employ the Handicapped Week (36 U.S.C. 155). This special week is a time for all Americans to renew our dedication to meeting the goal of increased opportunities for disabled citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning October 3, 1982, as National Employ the Handicapped Week.

I urge all governors, mayors, other public officials, leaders in business and labor, and private citizens to help meet the challenge of the future by ensuring that disabled people have the opportunity to participate fully in the economic life of the Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 13th. day of Sept., in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 4966 of September 13, 1982

### National Hospice Week, 1982

*By the President of the United States of America*

*A Proclamation*

The hospice concept is rapidly becoming a part of the Nation's health care system. To direct the Nation's attention to the value of hospice care, the Congress, by joint resolution approved May 24, 1982 (S.J. Res. 170, Public Law 97-182), requested that the President proclaim the week of November 7 through November 14, 1982, as National Hospice Week.

Hospice provides a humanitarian way for a terminally ill patient to approach death with dignity, in relative comfort in a supportive atmosphere, and surrounded by family members. Its most important element is concern