

**Proclamation 5080 of August 5, 1983****National Child Support Enforcement Month, 1983**

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

More than 15 million children are living in families where the father is absent, and nearly one-third of those are living in poverty. More than half the families who should receive court-ordered child support do not receive full payment, thus depriving children of billions of dollars in support each year. In some cases, these unfortunate children are left without the necessities of life.

The American people willingly extend help to children in need, including those whose parents are failing to meet their responsibilities. However, it is our obligation to make every effort to place the financial responsibility where it rightly belongs—on the parent who has been legally ordered to support his child.

For several years, the Federal government has worked with the States to recover child support payments from non-custodial parents. Collections for these children have improved dramatically in recent years, enabling thousands of families to leave the public assistance rolls. Nonetheless, we must work even harder to ensure that all American children are provided the financial support they deserve and to support enforcement personnel, judicial officials, and the legal community in alleviating this problem.

*Ante, p. 399.*

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 56, has designated the month of August 1983 as National Child Support Enforcement Month and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of that month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of August 1983 as National Child Support Enforcement Month, and I call upon all government agencies and the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 5th day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighth.

RONALD REAGAN

**Editorial Note:** For the President's remarks of Aug. 5, 1983, on signing Proclamation 5080, see the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 19, p. 1094).

**Proclamation 5081 of August 8, 1983****Child Health Day, 1983**

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

More than anything else, we seek the blessing of good health for our chil-

dren. We hope for the sound minds in sound bodies that lead to lives of strength and achievement.

Through the resources of a health care system second to none, this Nation strives to protect all of our children from preventable diseases, to encourage behavior that fosters good health, and to treat their episodic illnesses.

Unfortunately, some children are burdened with disabilities and chronic illnesses and need long-term healing and care. Their ability to thrive and to contribute to society depends on their receiving the kinds of treatment and health care that are available in this country as in few other places on earth.

Our task on this Child Health Day, 1983, is to fuse our efforts as parents, volunteers, health professionals, and educators to help all children—particularly those with special health needs—take advantage of opportunities that enable them to heal, to grow, and to achieve everything of which they are capable.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, pursuant to a joint resolution of May 18, 1928, as amended (36 U.S.C. 143), do hereby proclaim Monday, October 3, 1983, as Child Health Day, 1983.

I urge all Americans to join me in encouraging good health habits and attitudes in our children and invite all citizens and all agencies and organizations interested in child welfare to unite on Child Health Day with appropriate observances and activities directed toward establishing such practices in the youth of our country.

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

RONALD REAGAN

**Proclamation 5082 of August 11, 1983**

**200th Anniversary of the Signing of the Treaty of Paris**

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

On September 3, 1983, we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Paris, which brought our War of Independence from Great Britain to a successful and formal conclusion.

When our Founding Fathers boldly declared our independence in 1776, our fledgling Nation began a seven-year struggle for its freedom and survival; at no other time in our history has our security and existence been so severely threatened. Yet we emerged from the Revolutionary War a united and sovereign Nation.

In the Treaty of Paris, Britain formally acknowledged the independence of the United States of America. This "American Birth Certificate" inaugurated an era of peace for the new Nation which led to the adoption of the Constitution of the United States of America on September 17, 1787.

It is only fitting that this Treaty was signed in Paris, the capital of our oldest ally, thereby recognizing the extraordinary role France played in se-