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Executive Order 13265—President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports

June 6, 2002

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and to expand the executive branch's program for physical fitness and sports and establish the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports (the "Council"), it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. *Purpose.* The Secretary of Health and Human Services (Secretary) shall, in carrying out his responsibilities for public health and human services, develop and coordinate a national program to enhance physical activity and sports participation. Through this program, the Secretary shall seek to:

(a) expand national interest in and awareness of the benefits of regular physical activity and active sports participation;

(b) stimulate and enhance coordination of programs within and among the private and public sectors that promote participation in, and safe and easy access to, physical activity and sports;

(c) expand availability of quality information and guidance regarding physical activity and sports participation;

(d) integrate physical activity into a broader health-promotion and disease-prevention effort through Federal agencies and the private sector; and

(e) target all Americans, with particular emphasis on children and adolescents, as well as populations or communities in which specific risks or disparities in participation in, access to, or knowledge about the benefits of physical activity have been identified.

Sec. 2. *The President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.*

(a) There is hereby established the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

(b) The Council shall be composed of up to 20 members appointed by the President. The President may designate one or more members to be Chair or Vice Chair. Each member shall serve for a term of 2 years and may continue to serve after the expiration of that term until a successor is appointed.

Sec. 3. *Functions of the Council.*

(a) The Council shall advise the President, through the Secretary, concerning progress made in carrying out the provisions of this order and shall recommend to the President, through the Secretary, actions to accelerate progress.

(b) The Council shall advise the Secretary on ways to enhance opportunities for participation in physical fitness and sports. Recommendations may address, but are not necessarily limited to, public awareness campaigns, Federal, State, and local physical activity initiatives, and partnership opportunities between public- and private-sector health-promotion entities.

(c) The Council shall function as a liaison to relevant State, local, and private entities in order to advise the Secretary regarding opportunities to extend and improve physical activity programs and services at both the local and national levels.

(d) The Council shall monitor the need for the enhancement of programs and educational and promotional materials sponsored, overseen, or disseminated by the Council, and shall advise the Secretary as necessary concerning such need.

Sec. 4. *Administration.*

(a) Each Federal agency shall, to the extent permitted by law and subject to available funds, furnish such information and assistance to the Secretary and the Council as they may request.

(b) The members of the Council shall serve without compensation for their work on the Council. Members of the Council may, however, receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by law for persons serving intermittently in the Government (5 U.S.C. 5701–5707).

(c) To the extent permitted by law, the Secretary shall furnish the Council with necessary staff, supplies, facilities, and other administrative services. The expenses of the Council shall be paid from funds available to the Secretary.

(d) The Secretary shall appoint an Executive Director of the Council who shall serve as a liaison to the Secretary and the White House on matters and activities pertaining to the Council.

(e) The Council may establish subcommittees as appropriate to aid in its work. Such subcommittees shall meet on a voluntary basis and be defined by objectives established in coordination with and agreed upon by the Secretary and the President.

(f) The seal prescribed by Executive Order 10830 of July 24, 1959, as amended, shall be the seal of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports established by this order.

Sec. 5. *General Provisions.*

(a) Insofar as the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.) (Act), may apply to the Administration of any portion of this order, any functions of the President under the Act, except that of reporting to the Congress, shall be performed by the Secretary in accordance with the guidelines and procedures issued by the Administrator of General Services.

(b) In accordance with the Act, the Council shall terminate 2 years from the date of this order, unless extended by the President.

(c) Executive Order 12345 of February 2, 1982, as amended, is revoked.

George W. Bush

The White House,
June 6, 2002.

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NOTE: This Executive order was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on June 20, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on June 11.

Remarks at the White House Fitness Expo

June 20, 2002

Please be seated—except for those of you behind me. [*Laughter*] Welcome to the White House, and thanks for joining us as we launch a new national initiative designed to help the American people live longer, live healthier, and live better lives.

Better health is an individual responsibility, and it is an important national goal. We're making great progress in preventing and detecting and treating many chronic diseases, and that's good for America. We're doing a better job with heart disease and cancer and diabetes. We're living longer than any generation in history. Yet we can still improve, and we can do more. And it's not all that difficult to do. When it comes to your health, even little steps can make a big difference.

I really appreciate the First Lady for joining us. She is—she's a regular exerciser. I appreciate Tommy Thompson, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, for being here. Tommy told me the other day, even at his advanced age he's thinking about running a marathon. [*Laughter*] I appreciate very much Gale Norton, who's the Secretary of the Interior, for being here as well, Gale. Thank you both for coming.

I want to thank all the athletes who are here, and physical fitness experts and Olympians and Paralympians and President's Council on Physical Fitness are joining us today. I'm honored you're here.

This is an important message that we're sending to America. When America and Americans are healthier, our whole society benefits. And that's important to know. If you're interested in improving America, you can do so by taking care of your own body.

This year, heart disease will cost our country at least $183 billion. If just 10 percent of adults began walking regularly, we could save billions in dollars in costs related to heart disease. Research suggests that we can reduce cancer deaths in America by one-third simply by changing our diets and getting more exercise. The evidence is clear: A healthier America is a stronger America.

And today I'm taking two actions to put a new emphasis on health and fitness in America. First, I'm appointing the men and women you see behind me to the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. These are professional athletes, trainers, U.S. Olympians, executives from the public and private sector, and physicians. Lynn Swann, a friend and a football legend—not necessarily a friend to Cowboy fans, I might