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America is blessed by the character and strength of American Indians and Alaska Natives, and our citizens are grateful for the countless ways Native Americans have enriched our country and lifted the spirit of our Nation. We are especially grateful for the Native Americans who have served and continue to serve in our Nation's military. These brave individuals have risked their lives to protect our citizens, defend our democracy, and spread the blessings of liberty to people around the world.

My Administration is working to ensure that American Indians and Alaska Natives have access to all the opportunities of this great land. My fiscal year 2007 budget proposes more than $12.7 billion for government programs for Native Americans. Education is vital to ensuring all citizens reach their full potential, and my budget includes funding to help Native-American schools succeed and meet the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is providing education for approximately 46,000 American-Indian and Alaska-Native children. To help keep Native Americans safe, I have also proposed to increase law enforcement personnel and improve law enforcement facilities in American-Indian communities. My Administration will continue to work on a government-to-government basis with tribal governments, honor the principles of tribal sovereignty and the right to self-determination, and help ensure America remains a land of promise for American Indians, Alaska Natives, and all our citizens.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2006 as National American Indian Heritage Month. I call upon all Americans to commemorate this month with appropriate programs and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 1, 2006]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on November 2.

Proclamation 8077—National Diabetes Month, 2006

October 30, 2006

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

National Diabetes Month is an opportunity to raise awareness of risk factors, prevention, and treatment of this serious disease.

Diabetes is a chronic illness affecting nearly 21 million Americans of all ages and backgrounds. It can cause blindness, nontraumatic amputations, kidney disease, and increased risk of heart disease and stroke. Though diabetes affects Americans of all racial and ethnic backgrounds, certain groups are at higher risk, including Hispanic, Asian/Pacific, African, and Native Americans. A small percentage of people with the disease suffer from Type 1 diabetes, once known as juvenile diabetes. These individuals are usually children or young adults whose bodies are unable to make insulin. Type 2 diabetes is more common and frequently occurs in individuals who have a family history of the disease and in people who are obese, inactive, or older. This form of diabetes stops a person's body from using insulin properly. By maintaining healthy eating habits and exercising daily, Americans can help prevent and reduce the effects of diabetes. Individuals should consult with their doctors and receive a preventive screening to help detect diabetes in its earliest stages.

My Administration has demonstrated a strong commitment to preventing and finding a cure for diabetes. We have supported funding for diabetes education programs and research initiatives, and this year the National Institutes of Health (NIH) estimates that more than $1 billion will be spent on diabetes research. The NIH and the Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention are sponsoring the National Diabetes Education Program, which has helped inform millions of Americans about the risk factors of diabetes and the benefits of making healthy choices. By working together we can continue to make significant strides in the battle to beat this disease and provide a brighter future for many of our citizens.

As we observe National Diabetes Month, we recognize the medical professionals, researchers, and all those whose tireless efforts are making a positive difference in the lives of Americans suffering from this disease. This month we reaffirm our commitment to fighting diabetes, and through medical advances, preventive programs, and quality health care, we will help diabetes patients live longer, healthier, and happier lives.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2006 as National Diabetes Month. I call upon all Americans to learn more about the risk factors and symptoms associated with diabetes and to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 1 2006]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on November 2. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language version of this proclamation.

Proclamation 8078—National Family Caregivers Month, 2006

October 30, 2006

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Our country is blessed to have millions of compassionate citizens who bring love and support to family members and friends who are chronically ill, elderly, or disabled. During National Family Caregivers Month, we recognize these kind individuals who give of their hearts, resources, and energy to assist loved ones in need.

Family caregivers exemplify the true spirit of compassion by providing support to their loved ones and assisting with their everyday activities and special needs. These selfless people must often make great personal sacrifices to maintain the care and support their family and friends require. Their assistance provides those who may be ill, aging, or disabled an opportunity to stay in familiar surroundings and remain a part of their community.

My Administration is committed to supporting family caregivers and their vital role in our Nation's communities. The National Family Caregiver Support Program continues to provide information, counseling, and services and encourages cooperation among agencies and other providers that work with caregivers. These efforts assist caregivers and help ensure that all Americans receive the care they need.

As we observe National Family Caregivers Month, we honor family caregivers who take time out of their lives to improve the lives of family and friends. Their efforts demonstrate the best of the American spirit.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2006 as National Family Caregivers Month. I encourage all Americans to honor the selfless service of caregivers who support their loved ones in need.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of October, in the