

Time and again throughout our Nation's history, Asian and Pacific Americans have demonstrated their dedication to ideals upon which the United States is founded. In times of war and in times of peace, they have faithfully defended the principles of freedom and representative government. They have worked for the advancement of human rights and democratic ideals around the world, and they have promoted greater appreciation for our system of self-government here at home.

This month, all Americans join with our neighbors of Asian and Pacific descent as they celebrate the unique customs and traditions of their ancestral homelands. These customs and traditions have deeply enriched the wonderful heritage we share as a Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE 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 the month of May 1990 as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 7th day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Editorial note: For the President's remarks of May 7, 1990, on signing Proclamation 6130, see the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 26, p. 730).

Proclamation 6131 of May 8, 1990

Small Business Week, 1990

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

We often think of pioneers as those hardy settlers who tamed the American frontier, or as those heroic individuals who have made extraordinary advances in scientific research and space exploration. However, small business people also stand among our Nation's greatest pioneers. They, too, are men and women of vision. They, too, have the courage to take risks and the willingness to make their ideas work. Industrious and self-reliant, small business men and women continually lead the way in the development of new technology and products and in the creation of economic opportunity for all Americans.

Indeed, small business is the lifeblood of America's free enterprise system. It is within this vital sector of our economy that most workers find their first jobs and training. Small businesses account for two out of every three new jobs created in the United States. The creative, hardworking men and women who own and operate small businesses have demonstrated clearly how private initiative and free-market principles hold the key to success for individuals and nations.

Through the work of small business people, the spirit of freedom and entrepreneurship is renewed every day of the year. Small business owners take advantage of the liberty and opportunity our Nation offers and achieve success through determined effort, self-confidence, and an abiding faith in the American dream. They show us that, while the risks and challenges faced by America's entrepreneurs are great, so are the rewards of creating jobs, meeting a payroll, and contributing to the development of one's community.

Because individual initiative and private enterprise are the foundation of our Nation's technological progress and economic prosperity, and because small business reaffirms the value of our freedom, we must be committed to maintaining an environment in which they can thrive. This means an environment that is free from excessive government regulation and taxation—one that encourages savings, investment, and innovation. As a Nation, we owe our wholehearted support to those who are helping the United States to become ever more productive and competitive in a rapidly changing world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE 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 the week of May 6 through May 12, 1990, as Small Business Week. I urge all Americans to join me in saluting this special breed of pioneers, our Nation's small business men and women, by observing that week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 8 day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Editorial note: For the President's remarks of May 8, 1990, on Small Business Week, see the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 26, p. 736).

Proclamation 6132 of May 10, 1990

National Digestive Disease Awareness Month, 1990

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Exactng a high toll in personal suffering, in expense, and in reduced productivity, digestive diseases and other disorders of the gastrointestinal tract are a significant public health problem in the United States. More than half of all Americans suffer from a digestive disorder at some time in their lives, and at least 200,000 Americans die each year due to these afflictions. One of the most common causes of disability, digestive diseases are responsible for almost 15 percent of all hospital admissions and surgical procedures in the country.

Fortunately, major advances have been made in digestive disease research in recent years. Scientists are learning more about the causes of