

five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4405

November 4, 1975

Thanksgiving Day, 1975

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Two hundred years ago the frontier colonies of America braced for a long and determined conflict with the strongest military power in the world. The petition of our Founding Fathers for redress of their grievances had been rejected by King and Parliament, and the people of America began the struggle from which emerged this great Nation.

Our Nation is the oldest continuously surviving republic in the world. For 200 years our freedoms have been questioned, challenged, tested and reinforced. These freedoms have shaped our destiny and served as a beacon to other peoples. Our Nation draws its strength from people of every creed, of every color, of every race—native Americans and people from every nation in the world who for two centuries have come to share in the rewards and responsibilities of our American Republic.

On the eve of our 200th year, Thanksgiving Day should be a day of special reflection upon the qualities of heart, mind and character of the men and women who founded and built our great Nation. Let us join in giving thanks for our cultural pluralism. Let us celebrate our diversity and the great strengths that have come from sharing our traditions, our ideas, our resources, our hopes and our dreams. Let us be grateful that for 200 years our people have been dedicated to fulfilling the democratic ideal—dedicated to securing “liberty and justice for all.”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, in accord with Section 6103 of Title 5 of the United States Code, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 27, 1975, as a day of national thanksgiving.

Let each of us, in his own way, join in expressing personal gratitude for the blessings of liberty and peace we enjoy today. In so doing, let us

reaffirm our belief in a dynamic spirit that will continue to nurture and guide us as we prepare to meet the challenge of our third century.

I call upon all Americans on this day to gather with family and friends in homes and places of worship and join in offering gratitude for this Nation's countless blessings. I ask that we share with our senior citizens and with those less fortunate than ourselves this special day that brings us all closer together.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4406

November 4, 1975

Emergency Medical Services Week, 1975

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Each week more than a thousand Americans die as a result of accidents, heart attacks and other medical emergencies because emergency assistance is not available.

For many years, physicians and health professionals have urged improved national services and facilities for emergency medical care. Since 1968, pursuant to the publication of Standard 11, "Emergency Medical Services" in accordance with the Highway Safety Act of 1966, the Department of Transportation has been engaged actively in improving Emergency Care at the onset of the emergency and in transit to more definitive care. In 1973, the Congress passed the "Emergency Medical Services Systems Act of 1973" to create an additional national thrust toward the goal of improved total emergency care.

23 USC 401
note.

42 USC 300d
note.

Now two Federal agencies, the Department of Transportation and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, are working closely with States and communities to improve medical emergency services. Although many cities enjoy satisfactory services, the great majority of