

joy in celebrations with family and friends, they also bring a tragic increase in the incidence of impaired driving. This season, I ask each American to avoid driving while they are under the influence of alcohol or drugs, to help stop others from driving in an impaired condition, and to increase community awareness about these issues.

Despite many efforts by States, communities, and citizen groups to stop drunk and drugged driving, many Americans mistakenly continue to view impaired driving as acceptable conduct. After years of gradual improvement, fatalities in alcohol-related crashes rose by 4 percent from 1999 to 2000. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that last year alcohol was involved in 40 percent of fatal crashes and in 8 percent of all crashes.

Every person should reaffirm his or her personal responsibility to drive free of the influence of alcohol or drugs and to prevent others from driving under the influence of them. We must promote practices such as designating a sober driver, stopping impaired family members and friends from getting behind the wheel, reporting impaired drivers to law enforcement officials, and teaching our young people safe, alcohol- and drug-free driving behavior.

We should also promote coordinated public policies and citizen campaigns against drunk and drugged driving in our communities. One example is the Department of Transportation's *You Drink & Drive, You Lose* campaign. This national coalition of community and law enforcement organizations will increase public awareness of the hazards of impaired driving. Their message warns of the criminal penalties for impaired driving, including imprisonment and the loss of license, vehicle, time from work, and money in fines and court costs.

As we celebrate the joyous holiday season, we can help save lives by preventing impaired driving. In order to ensure the safety of our roads for all travelers, we must continue to fight drunk and drugged driving throughout the year.

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 December 2001 as National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month. I call upon State and community leaders to join the *National Holiday Lifesavers Mobilization*, sponsored by the *You Drink & Drive, You Lose* campaign, on December 21–23, 2001. I also urge all Americans to remember the hazards of impaired driving and to become involved in fighting this dangerous problem.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

George W. Bush

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NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 30, and it will be published in the *Federal Register* on December 4.

Statement on Congressional Action on Mexican Motor Carrier Legislation

November 30, 2001

The compromise reached by the House and Senate appropriators on Mexican trucking is an important victory for safety and free trade. We must promote the highest level of safety and security on American highways while meeting our commitments to our friends to the South. The compromise reached by the conferees will achieve these twin objectives by permitting our border to be opened in a timely manner and ensuring that all United States safety standards will be applied to every truck and bus operating on our highways.

**Statement on Resignation of
Governor James S. Gilmore III of
Virginia as Republican National
Committee Chairman**

November 30, 2001

Jim Gilmore is a close friend and valuable ally. He answered my call to lead the Republican Party through a challenging and dynamic election. He has done so with fervor and conviction. He has advanced our principles of limited but active government and promoted compassionate priorities that strengthen American families, keep Americans safe, and encourage individual responsibility.

There are few who embody public service the way that Jim Gilmore does, serving as Governor of Virginia, chairman of a national commission on terrorism, and leader of the national Republican Party all in the same year.

There is no greater priority on this Earth than one's family, and I respect and understand the decision Governor Gilmore has made. I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors and will continue to seek his wise counsel as a friend and confidante.

**Digest of Other
White House Announcements**

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

November 25

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush returned from Camp David, MD, to Washington, DC.

November 26

In the morning, the President met with his National Security Council.

November 27

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with King Abdullah II of Jordan concerning cooperation against ter-

rorism, events in Afghanistan, and Middle East peace efforts. Later, he met with his Homeland Security Council, and he also met with former Senator John C. Danforth, U.S. Special Envoy for Peace to the Sudan, to discuss human rights in the Sudan.

In the afternoon, the President met in the Oval Office with the presidents of the International, U.S., and Salt Lake City Olympic Committees to discuss the 2002 Winter Olympics opening February 8, 2002, in Salt Lake City. Later, he met in the Oval Office with President Ali Abdallah Salih of Yemen.

The President announced his intention to nominate Steven Joseph Chabot to be U.S. Representative to the 56th Session of the UN General Assembly.

The President announced his intention to nominate Eni F.H. Faleomavaega to be U.S. Representative to the 56th Session of the UN General Assembly.

The President announced his intention to appoint Stephen Hammerman, Floyd H. Flake, and William Harry Berdine as members of the White House Commission on Excellence in Special Education.

The President announced his intention to designate Daniel R. Mulville as Acting Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

November 28

The President declared a major disaster in Puerto Rico and ordered Federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, mudslides, and landslides on November 7 and continuing.

November 29

In the evening, the President had a telephone conversation with Gov. James S. Gilmore III of Virginia concerning the Governor's decision to resign as Republican National Committee chairman.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Philadelphia, PA, on December 1 to attend the Army-Navy football game at Veterans Stadium.

The President announced his intention to nominate Naomi Churchill Earp to be a member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and, upon confirmation, to designate her as Vice Chairman.