

ca's experiment with democratic self-government. Generations of Greek Americans have enriched every aspect of our national life—in the arts, sciences, business, politics, and sports. Through hard work, love of family and community, steadfast commitment to principle, and a deep love of liberty, they have contributed greatly to the prosperity and peace we enjoy today.

The bonds between America and Greece, in fact, have never been stronger than they are today. We are partners in the effort to find a lasting, peaceful solution in the Balkans and to build an enlarged NATO that will enhance our common security. As our two nations prepare for the challenges and possibilities of the new millennium, we look forward to building on that partnership so that the seeds of democracy we have nurtured together for so long will bear fruit in a bright future not only for ourselves, but for our global community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, 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 March 25, 1998, as Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy. I call upon all Americans to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-second.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

#### **Proclamation 7075 of March 31, 1998**

#### **Cancer Control Month, 1998**

*By the President of the United States of America  
A Proclamation*

While cancer still casts a shadow over the lives of millions of Americans and their families, we can rightfully look back over the 1990s as the decade in which we measurably began to turn the tide against this deadly disease. From 1990 to 1995, the annual number of new cancer cases for every 100,000 Americans dropped slightly but continuously. Perhaps more important, the overall cancer death rate, which rose throughout the 1970s and 1980s, declined between 1991 and 1995, a trend that continues today and that we hope will be sustained into the next century. Thanks to years of dedicated, rigorous scientific study, people with cancer are now leading longer, healthier lives. More than eight million Americans living today have had cancer at some time, and these survivors are a powerful reminder of the importance of maintaining our progress in cancer research, prevention, and control.

My Administration's new cancer initiative proposes an unprecedented \$4.7 billion investment in cancer research through the National Institutes of Health (NIH) over the next 5 years. This significant increase in research

funding has great potential to enhance early detection and diagnoses of cancer, to speed the discovery and development of new treatments, and to provide all cancer patients and their caregivers with improved access to the latest information about their disease. Part of these increased funds will go to NIH's Human Genome Project, which is helping to advance our knowledge in the promising field of cancer genetics. The National Cancer Institute's (NCI) recently unveiled Cancer Genome Anatomy Project website is connecting researchers to information on genetic factors that determine how a particular cancer behaves—how fast it grows, whether it will spread, and whether it will respond to treatment—as they work to develop new ways to prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer.

We are also continuing our aggressive cancer prevention efforts. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is entering the eighth year of its landmark National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection program. This program brings critical breast and cervical cancer screening services to previously underserved women, including older women, uninsured or underinsured women, women with low incomes, and women of racial and ethnic minority groups. Medicare now provides coverage for annual mammography screening and for Pap tests, pelvic exams, and colorectal cancer screening. By January 2000, Medicare will also cover the costs of prostate cancer screening tests.

We are taking other important steps toward cancer control as well. The NCI and the Food and Drug Administration are working in partnership to ensure that potentially effective drugs are expedited through the development process so that new anticancer therapies can be made available more rapidly to the patients who need them. We are also proposing, as part of our new cancer initiative, that Medicare beneficiaries have the opportunity to participate in certain cancer clinical trials. This will allow patients to benefit from cutting-edge research and provide scientists with a larger pool of participants in their studies, helping to make the results more statistically meaningful and scientifically sound.

If we follow our present course—investing in research, translating research findings into medical practice, and increasing access to improved diagnostic and treatment programs—we can continue to make significant progress in our crusade against cancer. We must not slacken our efforts until we can fully control this devastating disease and ultimately eradicate it.

In 1938, the Congress of the United States passed a joint resolution requesting the President to issue an annual proclamation declaring April as "Cancer Control Month."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim April 1998 as Cancer Control Month. I invite the Governors of the 50 States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, and the appropriate officials of all other areas under the American flag to issue similar proclamations. I also call upon health care professionals, private industry, community groups, insurance companies, and all interested organizations and individuals to unite in reaffirming our Nation's continuing commitment to controlling cancer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-eight, and

**Proc. 7076**

**Title 3—The President**

of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-second.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

**Proclamation 7076 of April 1, 1998**

**National Child Abuse Prevention Month, 1998**

*By the President of the United States of America  
A Proclamation*

All of us at one time or another have been shocked by news reports about a child who has been abused, neglected, or abandoned. Unable to comprehend such a betrayal of trust, we find ourselves hoping that these incidents are isolated and rare. The most recent reports from State child welfare agencies, however, confirm that one million cases of substantiated child abuse or neglect occur in our Nation every year. Of these cases, more than a thousand children—many under the age of four—do not survive; and most die at the hands of a parent or other family member. As a caring society that cherishes our children, we must work together to protect these little ones who cannot protect themselves.

Two of our greatest resources in the crusade against child abuse and neglect are knowledge and compassion. We must raise public awareness that these cases, while often hidden, can occur in any family and community in America. As responsible adults, we must learn more about the signs of child abuse so that we may report suspected incidents as soon as possible. We must support community programs that help to identify families at risk and intervene before abuse becomes deadly. As individuals and as members of our communities, we need to support services, programs, and legislation that will help to relieve the stresses on families that can sometimes lead to violence. We must strengthen the partnerships among schools, social service agencies, religious organizations, law enforcement, and the business community so that child abuse prevention efforts will be comprehensive, swift, and effective.

Backing up such efforts at the State and local level, my Administration is focusing Federal attention and resources on combating child abuse and neglect. We are supporting family-based prevention services that help at-risk families reduce violence in the home. We also are continuing to give the States resources to build and maintain strong protection systems for children in danger. And for those children who cannot remain safely at home, we worked with the Congress to enact the Adoption and Safe Families Act, which makes it easier to place at-risk children more quickly into a permanent and secure environment.

This month, as Americans celebrate spring and its promise of new life, let us reaffirm our commitment to the lives of our Nation's children. I encourage communities across the country to join together to raise awareness of the tragedy of child abuse, to learn more about what we can do to help end such abuse, and to strengthen efforts to support children and their families before the cycle of abuse can begin.