

Proclamation 7492 of November 1, 2001**National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, 2001**

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

By observing National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, we recognize the often devastating effects prostate cancer has on the lives of the more than 1 million American men currently suffering from it; and we commit ourselves to finding a cure for this disease. Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed form of cancer in America, excepting skin cancer. And it is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men in the United States. This year, almost 200,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, and over 31,000 will die from this disease.

Although the survival rate for those diagnosed with prostate cancer continues to rise, this disease nevertheless remains a serious threat to the health and well-being of all American men. Research shows that one out of every six men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer sometime during their lifetime.

By increasing awareness about the causes and signs of prostate cancer and by expanding research into preventative, remedial, and curative therapies, we can save more lives, improve the lives of those suffering from this cancer, and reduce its incidence in America. All men of middle age, and particularly those above the age of 50, should learn the risk factors, symptoms, and diagnostic tools that can help with the early recognition of prostate cancer, when treatment is most successful. It is important to consult a physician about available screening for prostate cancer, including digital examinations and prostate specific antigen blood tests. These techniques aid doctors in the early diagnosis of prostate cancer, and they are essential to continuing the reduction of prostate cancer death rates.

As with most other forms of cancer, modern medical research has produced promising new treatment options for prostate cancer that have greatly increased the likelihood of survival after diagnosis. However, much still remains to be learned about the causes and cures of prostate cancer, and I applaud the work of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in this area. My Administration also supports increasing Federal funding for programs that promote awareness, improve prevention, and expand research by the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

These research programs obtain important epidemiological data, develop prostate cancer awareness among the public and throughout the health care community, and serve as proving grounds for new prostate cancer treatments. Charitable organizations and the private sector also play important roles in advancing public awareness about the need for prostate cancer screening and research, and in serving as a therapeutic resource for those suffering from prostate cancer.

On this occasion, I commend the scientists, physicians, and other health professionals who are committed to achieving success in our struggle

against prostate cancer. I call on all those potentially vulnerable to this disease to support this effort by taking preventative measures such as observing a healthy lifestyle, talking to your doctor about regular screenings, and building awareness of prostate cancer. By working together, we will find new therapies to aid those living with prostate cancer, increase awareness about its causes and symptoms, and, I hope, eventually find a cure for this deadly disease.

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 2001 as National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. I call upon government officials, businesses, communities, health care professionals, educators, volunteers, and all the people of the United States to publicly reaffirm our Nation's strong and continuing commitment to control and cure prostate cancer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first 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

Proclamation 7493 of November 5, 2001

National Adoption Month, 2001

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

Children deserve to be raised in loving families with parents who protect and nurture them. For some children, adoption is their best chance for a healthy and happy life. Each year, American families adopt approximately 120,000 newborn or older children, providing them with a loving and supportive environment.

Despite this substantial number of annual adoptions, more than 134,000 children are currently waiting adoption. While our foster care system can provide a safe, temporary home for these children, adoption would give them the love and stability of a permanent family that would better enable them to develop to their full potential.

My Administration is working to help states promote and support adoptions. This year, 35 states and the District of Columbia received adoption incentive awards for increasing the number of children they placed from foster care into permanent homes. States have reinvested these bonuses to enhance their adoption and child welfare programs, which has resulted in an unprecedented 79 percent increase in adoptions from 28,000 in 1996 to 50,000 in 2000.

Although we have made dramatic advances in encouraging adoption, we must strengthen our efforts to find a safe, loving, and permanent home for every child awaiting one. One important way to advance towards this goal is to ease the financial burden on families that adopt children. The tax relief bill that I signed into law earlier this year extends and increases the adoption tax credit for qualified expenses from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per child.