

once you know the alternatives. If these health care cuts come to my desk, of this size, I would have no choice but to veto it. [Applause]

But let me say this: What always, always becomes the news every day is what the new fight is, what the new conflict is. We ought to be here to build a bridge. I can't believe anyone would willingly, willingly damage the seniors of this country, the Americans with disabilities, the children of this country as much as I believe this proposal will damage them, especially to pay for a tax cut that is too large, when we can have a targeted tax cut for education and child-rearing for middle class families without doing any of this, when we can balance the budget without doing any of this, when we can save the Medicare Trust Fund without doing any of this.

So I ask you to—I'm glad you cheered and I'm glad you clapped, but there is a bridge to be built here. We can get all Americans on the solution side of this problem. We can get Republicans and Democrats on the solution side of this problem. It is not too late. We have a few weeks here. But first, the American people must know the facts. So I implore you—most of you know so much about this you just assume other people do, too. And it is a very powerful thing to tell an average American working family that deeply believes in this country that we've got to do what it takes to save Medicare. That's a powerful thing. Well, we do. But this is not what it takes to save Medicare, this proposal that we're opposed to.

So I ask you, stand up for what you believe. Fight for what you believe. Know that I'll be there for you if it comes to crunch time. And if I have to use the veto pen, I will. But go out there and build a bridge. Start it with the facts, the evidence, the truth. Ask people to come to grips with the truth. And ask them what our obligations are to one another. Ask them why we're balancing the budget and don't we have to balance the budget consistent with our desire for strong families, for honoring the people who have made this country what it is today, and for building a better future for our children, whether they're rich or poor.

That, I think, ought to be the message. If so, we'll wind up building that bridge and making this country stronger.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE. The President spoke at 3:41 p.m. in Room 450 of the Old Executive Office Building. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

**Executive Order 12971—
Amendment to Executive Order
No. 12425**

September 15, 1995

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to extend the appropriate privileges, exemptions, and immunities upon the International Criminal Police Organization (“INTERPOL”) it is hereby ordered that Executive Order No. 12425 be amended by deleting, in the first sentence, the words “the portions of Section 2(d) and” and the words “relating to customs duties and federal internal-revenue importation taxes”.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 15, 1995.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:28 a.m., September 18, 1995]

NOTE: This Executive order was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 16, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on September 19.

**Proclamation 6824—National
Rehabilitation Week, 1995**

September 15, 1995

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

National Rehabilitation Week offers us a unique opportunity each year to measure our progress on the long road to creating a totally accessible society in America. This year, as we also mark the 5th anniversary of the

Americans with Disabilities Act and the 75th anniversary of the Rehabilitation Act of 1920, we can look back with satisfaction on the tremendous advances we have made on our journey.

Because of the passage and implementation of these landmark pieces of legislation, millions of Americans with disabilities have received the training and skills to become competitive and productive employees. Working Americans who became disabled in mid-life have received the help they need to adapt to their changed circumstances and to resume their contributions to our society. Today, employers across the Nation are working closely with State rehabilitation agencies to ensure that men and women with disabilities are trained to succeed at the jobs of tomorrow.

Thanks largely to the efforts of people with disabilities, America has come a long way from the time when these citizens were kept out of sight and out of mind. Today, our Nation's disability policies emphasize inclusion, independence, and empowerment. Our laws declare that Americans with disabilities have a fundamental right to full equality—and are entitled to the same choices and opportunities as their fellow citizens who are not disabled.

But we still have a long way to travel before we reach our goal of full equality in fact as well as in law. Today, two-thirds of all persons with disabilities remain unemployed, although many of them already have received appropriate training and rehabilitative services. And even more distressing, millions of these individuals would find it difficult to work if a job were offered to them simply because our society has not instituted the changes needed to help them perform their work responsibilities.

People with disabilities want to work, and it is vital that we offer them the means to gain full employment. Not only is this the right thing to do, it is the prudent thing as well. If America is to continue to succeed in our rapidly changing global economy, we cannot afford to waste the talents, knowledge, vision, or abilities of a single individual.

Let us celebrate National Rehabilitation Week by rededicating ourselves to the spirit of equality. As we move toward the era of

hope and opportunity promised by the 21st century, we must guarantee that every American has a share in that hope and ensure that the doors of opportunity are open to all. By empowering each person, including those with disabilities, to live up to his or her full potential, we will infuse our Nation with fresh energy for the challenges before us.

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 September 17 through September 23, 1995, as "National Rehabilitation Week." I call upon the people of the United States, including government officials, employers, educators, and volunteers, to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities honoring all those who work for self-determination, equal treatment, and full participation.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fifteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 12:34 p.m., September 18, 1995]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 16, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on September 19.

The President's Radio Address

September 16, 1995

Good morning. Last week I spoke with you about what I believe must be done to reform our Nation's broken welfare system. I said that real welfare reform should reflect the values all of us as Americans share: work, personal responsibility, and family. And I challenged the Senate to put aside its partisan differences to stand up to ideological extremism and to find common ground and higher ground.

Ever since the 1992 campaign, I've been appealing to Americans to join me in an effort to end welfare as we know it. Since I