

honest—and in which their leaders answer to them instead of the other way around. The Iranian people deserve a truly free and democratic society with a vibrant free press that informs the public and ensures transparency. They deserve freedom of assembly, so Iranians can gather and press for reform and a peaceful, loyal opposition can keep the Government in check. They deserve a free economy that delivers opportunity and prosperity and economic independence from the state. They deserve an independent judiciary that will guarantee the rule of law and ensure equal justice for all Iranians. And they deserve a system that guarantees religious freedom, so that they can build a society in which compassion and tolerance prevail.

Today, the Iranian regime denies all these rights. It shuts down independent newspapers and web sites and jails those who dare to challenge the corrupt system. It brutalizes its people and denies them their liberty.

America believes in the independence and territorial integrity of Iran. America believes in the right of the Iranian people to make their own decisions and determine their own future. America believes that freedom is the birthright and deep desire of every human soul. And to the Iranian people, I say: As you stand for your own liberty, the people of America stand with you.

NOTE: The statement referred to President Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) of the Palestinian Authority.

Proclamation 7911—Father’s Day, 2005

June 16, 2005

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

Being a father is a great responsibility and a great joy. From the moment their children are born, fathers face the daily tasks of being mentors, protectors, providers, and friends. Fathers take great pride in watching their children take their first steps, learn to read, and attend their first day of school. On Father’s Day, our Nation honors fathers across

America, and we express our deep gratitude for their selfless love and sacrifices.

Caring, decent, and hardworking fathers give much of themselves. By offering unconditional love and providing guidance and discipline, a father is a source of stability and one of the most important influences on his children. A father’s example helps shape the character and values that his children will carry with them into adulthood, and the lessons he teaches remain with them for a lifetime. By encouraging his sons and daughters to set high standards, work hard, and make good decisions, a father shows his children that they can meet life’s challenges and be good citizens.

Responsible fatherhood is essential to a compassionate society in which all children are surrounded by love and taught the importance of respect, honesty, and integrity. My Administration commends all those who are working to strengthen the bonds between fathers and their children.

On Father’s Day and all year long, we honor our Nation’s fathers and express our love and appreciation for them. We also honor the many proud fathers who are serving our country on the front lines of freedom. We are grateful for their service and sacrifice, and we pray for them and their families. These men have answered a great call, and they set an example of duty and honor for all Americans.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, in accordance with a joint resolution of the Congress approved April 24, 1972, as amended (36 U.S.C. 109), do hereby proclaim June 19, 2005, as Father’s Day. I direct the appropriate officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on this day. I also call upon State and local governments and citizens to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

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

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:40 a.m., June 17, 2005]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on June 20.

**Executive Order 13379—
Amendment to Executive Order
13369, Relating to the President’s
Advisory Panel on Federal Tax
Reform**

June 16, 2005

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and to extend the reporting deadline of the President’s Advisory Panel on Federal Tax Reform, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Section 5 of Executive Order 13369 of January 7, 2005, is amended by deleting “July 31, 2005” and inserting in lieu thereof “September 30, 2005”.

Sec. 2. This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the United States, its departments, agencies, entities, officers, employees or agents, or any other person.

George W. Bush

The White House,
June 16, 2005.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:40 a.m., June 17, 2005]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on June 20.

**Remarks in a Discussion on
Implementing the Medicare
Modernization Act in Maple Grove,
Minnesota**

June 17, 2005

The President. Thanks for the warm welcome. Thanks for the warm day too. [*Laughter*] It’s good to be back in the great State of Minnesota. Thanks for coming. I think you’re going to find this to be an interesting discussion we’re about to have about Medicare. We’re here to say to the seniors who

live here in Minnesota and around the country that Medicare has been strengthened, reformed, and modernized, and we hope you take a look at it—the new program, because it’s going to benefit a lot of people.

So what you’re about to see is Government in the process of educating folks about what’s available, and I want to thank my fellow panelists for being here. I think you’re going to be find this to be an interesting discussion.

Before I begin, I just want you to know that Laura sends her best. She’s doing great, working on some new comedy material. [*Laughter*] But I’m really proud of her, and she and I are having the times of our life representing the United States of America, and I’m really lucky to have her by my side.

I want to thank the Governor for being here. Governor, thanks for coming, I’m proud you’re here. Thanks for serving. We’ve got the secretary of state here. Mary, thanks for being here. Oh, there she is. Hi, Mary. Thank you for coming. We’ve got the mayor, mayor of Maple Grove. I saw the mayor come in. Mayor—there he is. I appreciate you being—sitting by your old classmate. Thanks for having us. I want to thank all the folks who serve in the statehouse and local government. I appreciate you serving your State. I really want to tell you to thank your families. It’s not easy to be in public office, and it’s not easy to be in public office if you’re a family member. But thanks for serving.

I really want to thank the folks here at Maple Grove for letting us come by. It’s not easy to host the President. [*Laughter*] It turns out his entourage is quite big these days. [*Laughter*] But I really want to—thank you for letting us do this. I think you’re going to find this will help the seniors who use this fantastic facility. It will help them at least understand there’s new options available to them when it comes to making sure there’s a prescription drug benefit available to them.

I want to thank Mark. I’m going to talk a little bit about Mark in a second here, but I want to thank Rhonda Whitenack, who is the Social Security Administration training instructor. I just was with Rhonda and some folks who have taken time out of their lives to learn what is available in this new program. See, this is a part of a grassroots effort to