

that have sustained us throughout our history. During National Forest Products Week, we recognize the value of our woodlands and commit ourselves to good stewardship and conservation practices that help us to responsibly manage our Nation's forests.

As a renewable and recyclable resource, wood is one of our Nation's most environmentally friendly building materials. Wood fiber is used throughout our daily lives, from the paper we write on to the offices where we work. We value the beauty of wood in our furniture, in our homes, and in artwork that surrounds us. Today, modern technology and stewardship practices by Federal, State, tribal, and private landowners have improved the way we manage our natural resources so that forests can meet the needs of current and future generations.

Forests are one of the foundations on which our Nation was formed; they are the backbone of our environment. This week, we recognize the value of forest products and the importance of their sustainable use to our lives.

To recognize the importance of products from our forests, the Congress, by Public Law 86-753 (36 U.S.C. 123), as amended, has designated the week beginning on the third Sunday in October of each year as National Forest Products Week and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning on the third Sunday in October of each year as National Forest Products Week. I call on all Americans to celebrate the varied uses and products of our forested lands, as well as the people who carry on the tradition of careful stewardship of these precious natural resources for generations to come.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-third day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth.

BARACK OBAMA.

**§ 124. National Freedom Day**

The President may issue each year a proclamation designating February 1 as National Freedom Day to commemorate the signing by Abraham Lincoln on February 1, 1865, of the joint resolution adopted by the Senate and the House of Representatives that proposed the 13th amendment to the Constitution.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1259.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
124 .....	36:156.	June 30, 1948, ch. 755, 62 Stat. 1150.

**§ 125. National Grandparents Day**

The President is requested to issue each year a proclamation—

(1) designating the first Sunday in September after Labor Day as National Grandparents Day; and

(2) calling on the people of the United States and interested groups and organizations to observe National Grandparents Day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1259.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
125 .....	36:142b.	Sept. 6, 1979, Pub. L. 96-62, 93 Stat. 410.

**§ 126. National Hispanic Heritage Month**

The President is requested to issue each year a proclamation—

(1) designating September 15 through October 15 as National Hispanic Heritage Month; and

(2) calling on the people of the United States, especially the educational community, to observe National Hispanic Heritage Month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1259.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
126 .....	36:169f.	Sept. 17, 1968, Pub. L. 90-498, 82 Stat. 848; Aug. 17, 1988, Pub. L. 100-402, §1, 102 Stat. 1012.

**§ 127. National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day**

(a) DESIGNATION.—July 27 of each year until 2003 is National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day.

(b) PROCLAMATION.—The President is requested to issue each year a proclamation calling on—

(1) the people of the United States to observe National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

(2) all departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States Government, and interested organizations, groups, and individuals, to fly the flag of the United States at halfstaff on July 27 of each year until 2003 in honor of the individuals who died as a result of their service in Korea.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1259.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
127(a) .....	36:169m (words before "and the President").	July 27, 1995, Pub. L. 104-19, title II, §2005, 109 Stat. 247.
127(b) .....	36:169m (words after "Armistice Day").	

In subsection (b)(2), the words "departments, agencies, and instrumentalities" are substituted for "departments and agencies of the United States" for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code.

**§ 128. National Maritime Day**

(a) DESIGNATION.—May 22 is National Maritime Day.

(b) PROCLAMATION.—The President is requested to issue each year a proclamation calling on—

(1) the people of the United States to observe National Maritime Day by displaying the flag of the United States at their homes or other suitable places; and