

day of February of each year as National Freedom Day for the purpose of commemorating the signing by President Abraham Lincoln, on February 1, 1865, of the joint resolution adopted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States, proposing the thirteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

(June 30, 1948, ch. 755, 62 Stat. 1150.)

§ 157. Flag Day; designation; proclamation; observance

The 14th day of June of each year is hereby designated as “Flag Day”, and the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue annually a proclamation calling upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on such day, and urging the people to observe the day as the anniversary of the adoption on June 14, 1777, by the Continental Congress of the Stars and Stripes as the official flag of the United States of America.

(Aug. 3, 1949, ch. 385, 63 Stat. 492.)

§ 157a. National Flag Week

The President is authorized and requested to issue annually a proclamation designating the week in which June 14 occurs as National Flag Week, and calling upon all citizens to display the flag of the United States on those days.

(Pub. L. 89-443, June 9, 1966, 80 Stat. 194.)

§ 157b. Honor America Days

Congress declares the twenty-one days from Flag Day through Independence Day as a period to honor America, and further declares that there be public gatherings and activities at which the people of the United States can celebrate and honor their country in an appropriate manner.

(Pub. L. 94-33, June 13, 1975, 89 Stat. 211.)

§ 158. Stephen Foster Memorial Day

The President of the United States is authorized to issue a proclamation designating January 13 of each year as Stephen Foster Memorial Day, and calling upon the people throughout the United States to observe such day with appropriate ceremonies, pilgrimages to his shrines, and musical programs featuring his compositions.

(Oct. 27, 1951, ch. 593, 65 Stat. 659.)

§ 159. Constitution Week; designation; proclamation; observance

The President of the United States is authorized and requested to designate the period beginning September 17 and ending September 23 of each year as Constitution Week, and to issue annually a proclamation inviting the people of the United States to observe such week in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

(Aug. 2, 1956, ch. 875, 70 Stat. 932.)

§ 160. National Defense Transportation Day; proclamation; designation; observance

The President of the United States is authorized and requested annually to issue a proclamation designating the third Friday of May of each year as National Defense Transportation Day, and urging the people of the United States, including labor, management, users, and investors, in all communities served by any of the various forms of transportation by land, by sea, and by air, to observe this occasion by appropriate ceremonies which will give full recognition to the importance to each and every community and the people thereof of our transportation system and the maintenance of its facilities in the most modern state of adequacy to serve our needs in times of peace and in national defense.

(Pub. L. 85-32, May 16, 1957, 71 Stat. 30.)

§ 161. National Safe Boating Week

The President of the United States is authorized and requested to proclaim annually the the¹ seven day period ending on the last Friday before Memorial Day as “National Safe Boating Week”.

(Pub. L. 85-445, June 4, 1958, 72 Stat. 179; Pub. L. 96-376, §9, Oct. 3, 1980, 94 Stat. 1510; Pub. L. 103-206, title III, §318(a), Dec. 20, 1993, 107 Stat. 2427.)

AMENDMENTS

1993—Pub. L. 103-206 substituted “the seven day period ending on the last Friday before Memorial Day” for “week commencing on the first Sunday in June”.

1980—Pub. L. 96-376 substituted authorization for proclamation of a National Safe Boating Week commencing on the first Sunday in June for prior authorization of such Week during week including July 4.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Section 318(b) of Pub. L. 103-206 provided that: “This section [amending this section] is effective January 1, 1995.”

RECITAL CLAUSES

Pub. L. 85-445 upon which this section is based contained several “Whereas” clauses reading as follows:

“Whereas our people in increasing numbers are taking part in boating activities on the waters of our Nation, with more than twenty million expected to participate during 1958; and

“Whereas safety is essential for the full enjoyment of boating; and

“Whereas many lives can be spared and injuries and property damage avoided by safe boating practices; and

“Whereas it is proper and fitting that national attention should be focused on the need for safe boating practices * * *.”

§ 162. Loyalty Day

The 1st day of May of each year is designated as Loyalty Day and is to be set aside as a special day for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States of America and for the recognition of the heritage of American freedom; and the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon officials of the Government to display the

¹ So in original.