

with the American Indians and Alaska Natives to preserve their freedoms, as they practice their religion and culture.

During National American Indian Heritage Month, I call on all Americans to learn more about the history and heritage of the Native peoples of this great land. Such actions reaffirm our appreciation and respect for their traditions and way of life and can help to preserve an important part of our culture for generations yet to come.

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 American Indian Heritage Month. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth 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

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:34 a.m., November 14, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on November 15.

Statement on Signing the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2002

November 12, 2001

Today I have signed into law H.R. 2311, the “Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2002.”

I appreciate the bipartisan effort that has gone into producing this Act. The bill abides by the agreed upon aggregate funding level for Fiscal Year 2002 of \$686 billion. It provides funding for several important programs with significant national benefits including:

- key research projects designed to develop new energy technologies and im-

prove the efficiency of existing energy technologies, such as for solar and renewable energy production, as called for in the National Energy Policy report;

- nonproliferation programs that seek to prevent nuclear materials and other weapons of mass destruction from falling into the hands of terrorists and rogue states;
- stockpile stewardship, which is critical to maintaining the safety, reliability, and performance of our nuclear weapons stockpile; and
- water resources development and management projects, and programs for commercial navigation, flood damage reduction, and environmental restoration and enhancement.

Section 303 of the bill purports to require congressional approval before executive branch execution of aspects of the bill. I will interpret such provisions to require notification only, since any other interpretation would contradict the Supreme Court ruling in *INS v. Chadha*. Provisions of H.R. 2311 that purport to remove my authority to oversee the activities of the Army Corps of Engineers will be construed consistent with my constitutional authority to supervise the unitary executive branch.

My Administration appreciates that the Congress has worked expeditiously during this difficult and trying time in our Nation’s history to consider the FY 2002 appropriations bills. Now, through a renewed sense of bipartisanship, the Congress and the Administration must work together to ensure the timely enactment of the remaining bills.

George W. Bush

The White House,
November 12, 2001.

NOTE: H.R. 2311, approved November 12, was assigned Public Law No. 107–66. This statement was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 13.