THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 28, 2006

EXECUTIVE ORDER 13421

PROVIDING FOR THE CLOSING OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES ON JANUARY 2, 2007

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section $\underline{1}$. All executive departments, independent establishments, and other governmental agencies shall be closed on January 2, 2007, as a mark of respect for Gerald R. Ford, the thirty-eighth President of the United States. That day shall be considered as falling within the scope of Executive Order 11582 of February 11, 1971, and of 5 U.S.C. 5546 and 6103(b) and other similar statutes insofar as they relate to the pay and leave of employees of the United States.

 $\underline{\operatorname{Sec}}$. $\underline{2}$. The first sentence of section 1 of this order shall not apply to those offices and installations, or parts thereof, in the Department of State, the Department of Defense, the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, or other departments, independent establishments, and governmental agencies that the heads thereof determine should remain open for reasons of national security or defense or other essential public business.

GEORGE W. BUSH

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 28, 2006.

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