

## ***National Moment of Remembrance***

**An act of American unity in a shared *moment of remembrance* for our fallen heroes.**

**When:** Along with other Americans, you are asked to spend a *moment of remembrance* on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, 2016, at 3 p.m. local time (duration: one minute). The time 3 p.m. was chosen, because it is the time when many Americans are enjoying their freedoms on the national holiday. The *Moment* does not replace the traditional Memorial Day observances. It is intended to be a unifying act of remembrance for Americans of all ages.

**What:** As you participate in this *Moment*, you are helping reclaim Memorial Day for the noble and sacred reason for which it was intended—to honor those who died in service to our Nation.

**Who:** Americans of every age are invited to participate.

**Where:** You may pause for the *Moment* wherever you happen to be, whether alone or with others.

**How:** Participation is voluntary and informal. You may observe in your own way a *Moment* of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever you are doing for a moment of silence or listening to “Taps.”

You may, however, organize the observance more formally at such places as your neighborhood, local pool, picnic grounds, etc., for one minute of remembrance. You may ring a bell to signify the beginning and the end of the *Moment* or may tune into a local radio station that is observing the *Moment* with the playing of “Taps.” If you are driving a vehicle, you may turn on your headlights.

**Why:** To remind all Americans of the importance of remembering those who sacrificed for their freedom and what it means to be an American.

To provide Americans throughout the world the opportunity to join this expression of gratitude, in an act of unity.

To make Memorial Day relevant, especially to younger Americans.

**Background:** In May 1996, the idea of the *Moment* was born, when children touring Washington, D.C., were asked what Memorial Day meant. They responded, “That’s the day the pools open!”

On Dec. 28, 2000, by P.L. 106-579, the White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance was established. The *Moment* has the personal support of the President of the United States.