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National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.

Providence, Ky.
March 31, 1986

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Dear Legislative Chairman:

Within the past year, commercial interests related to gardening combined their efforts to have National Garden Week established in April rather than June as National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. has proposed and promoted.

Through Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon, SJR 136 was introduced in the U. S. Senate and was passed on June 18, 1985. Soon after, a corresponding House Joint Resolution (HJR 266) was introduced by Representative Luken of Ohio. This HJR has been referred to the Post Office/Civil Service Committee.

Since the legislation to establish National Garden Week from June 1-8 seems to be in trouble in Washington, National Council wishes to have this legislation introduced and passed in all State Legislatures by April 1987.

Some states have already passed this legislation, and we would like to know the status of this legislation in every state. I know that the Kentucky Legislature enacted this legislation in 1983.

Please investigate the status of your state, and I would appreciate your informing me of your findings as quickly as possible. It is important that this date be set by an act of the legislature rather than by proclamation as a proclamation expires after June 8th. If your legislature is not in session, -however, this date could be set by a Proclamation which would be most helpful this year.

I would also appreciate you sending me a Legislative Report on other legislative activities in your state by April 30th.

Sincerely,

Genev Blue
Mrs. J. Murray Blue (Genev
National Legislative Chair
300 West Main Street
Providence, Ky. 42450



National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.

Providence, Ky.

April 16, 1986

Dear Legislative Chairman,

National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. would like to have all garden clubs celebrate National Garden Week from June 1-7. This is the time to have flower shows, displays in malls, radio and television programs, talk shows, etc. to proclaim to everyone that we, as gardeners, are showing "Pride In The Land".

I am enclosing an article by our publicity chairman, Mrs. Harold V. Pasley, which will give some ideas on how to accomplish this observance. This would be an excellent time to recruit new gardeners and increase our membership.

A number of our states have enacted in their state legislatures a bill to establish "Garden Week" the first full week in June of each year, while other states have asked Mayors and Governors to issue a proclamation which would proclaim the first week in June as Garden Week.

A proclamation would expire after June 7th, however, legislation would remain from year to year. The real importance is that we let everyone know that this week is the time for a celebration of better gardening and a more beautiful America.

National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. does not participate in political activity, and if you desire to seek legislation for setting this date, it must be done on an individual basis.

Please help your president make plans for an exciting observance of this week. Let's show America that we are dedicated to "Gardening With Pride In The Land."

Sincerely,

Geneva Blue (Mrs. J. Murray)

NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK
JUNE 1 - 7

With the theme of our National Council President, Mrs. John N. Fehrer "Pride in the Land" in particular focus this year, members of our 10,553 garden clubs will celebrate NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK June 1 - 7, the first full week in June. Although observances will be varied in form, NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK is an event which brings a sense of togetherness among us and a sense of pride in membership in a garden club federated with the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., the largest organization in the world devoted to gardening in its broad context. Community residents will respond favorably to well-planned observances and these provide our organization with visibility in a very positive way--the ideal climate for securing new club members.

A strong, nation-wide effort to project NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK and "PRIDE IN THE LAND" is now in progress under the direction of Mrs. Graem Yates, Fourth Vice-President and Promotion Coordinator, National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., who has completed plans with the McDonald Corporation to carry this message:

SHOW PRIDE IN THE LAND
OBSERVE NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK, JUNE 1 - 7
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

on its community service readerboards located in the interior of each restaurant throughout our country.

NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK is our opportunity to tell the story of gardening and its benefits; aesthetic, economic and therapeutic and to tell the story of the importance of garden clubs. Let it be known that the idea of a NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK originated in The National Council of State Garden Clubs.

Whatever may be the form of observance, do relate it to your garden club, your state federation and our National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. and to our National Council President's theme "Pride in the Land".

Television and radio stations schedule community service time with advance reservation. It will be an educational experience to participate in a "talk show" not only discussing horticultural practices but also explaining selected National Council programs relating them to your area when applicable, our conservation and environmental concerns and our contributions to the betterment of our country: In a shopping mall, set up a display or a "how to do" exhibit including information about your own club and its projects. Place an artistic design in a location where it can be appreciated. Plan something special for garden therapy.

Within the past year, commercial interests related to gardening, combined their efforts and introduced SJR 136 in the U.S. Senate to hold a "National Gardening Week" beginning on April 13, 1986. The Resolution passed in the Senate on June 18, 1985. Soon thereafter, a corresponding Resolution was introduced in the House of Representatives (HJR 266) which is, as of this writing, yet in the Post Office/Civil Service Committee. It is understood that, should this Resolution become a reality, its duration would be for one year.

Be that as it may, together we will continue on to work, without interruption, for our NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK,

So much work has already been done in that direction by so many people in our organization that it seems in order to proceed to accomplish what is evident our members want, a NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK, in perpetuity.

A number of our states have enacted in their state legislatures a Bill to establish a Garden Week the first full week in June of each year. It is the goal that all states will have such legislation by June 1987, the conclusion of the present biennium. We will then have achieved a NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK for always. Mrs. J. Murray Blue, National Council Legislation Chairman, will direct this activity.

Celebrate NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK June 1 - 7, with pride in your membership and "Pride in the Land".