



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 21, 2004

Mr. Jim Shaner  
503 First Montgomery Boulevard  
Thorndale, Pennsylvania 19372-1142

Dear Mr. Shaner:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Pledge of Allegiance.

For more than two centuries, our flag has symbolized a unified country. When we pledge allegiance to our flag, Americans feel a renewed respect and love for all it represents. We are thankful for our rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We are also grateful for our freedoms, which continue to be defended by our brave men and women in uniform.

When we pledge allegiance to One Nation under God, our citizens participate in an important American tradition of humbly seeking the wisdom and blessing of Divine Providence. Our founders dedicated this country to the rights of every person and the possibilities of every life. Our Declaration of Independence proclaims that our Creator endowed us with inalienable rights, and our currency says, "In God We Trust." May we always live by that same trust, and may the Almighty continue to watch over the United States of America.

Thank you again for writing, and best wishes. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless America.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George W. Bush".

George W. Bush