

Independence Day Message:

Happy July 4th 2024

Again, this year, may you celebrate July 4th with your family and friends and remember how blessed we are as a nation to be able to enjoy the freedoms we possess in America.

Below is a brief overview of why we celebrate The Fourth of July, also called Independence Day and how the framework of the declaration of independence evolved.

Independence Day, known as the Fourth of July, is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the Declaration of Independence, which was ratified by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, establishing the United States of America.

The Founding Father delegates of the Second Continental Congress declared that the Thirteen Colonies were no longer subject (and subordinate) to the monarch of Britain, King George III, and were now united, free, and independent states. The Congress voted to approve independence by passing the Lee Resolution on July 2 and adopted the Declaration of Independence two days later, on July 4.

Lee Resolution - During the American Revolution, the legal separation of the thirteen colonies from Great Britain in 1776 actually occurred on July 2, when the Second Continental Congress voted to approve a resolution of independence that had been proposed in June by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia declaring the United States independent from Great Britain's rule. After voting for independence, Congress turned its attention to the Declaration of Independence, a statement explaining this decision, which had been prepared by the Committee of Five, which asked Thomas Jefferson to author its first draft.

The Committee of Five was composed of John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Robert Livingston, and Roger Sherman.

Declaration of Independence - While Jefferson consulted extensively with the other four members of the Committee of Five, he largely wrote the Declaration of Independence in isolation over 17 days between June 11, 1776, and June 28, 1776, from the second floor he was renting in a three-story private home at 700 Market Street in Philadelphia, now known as the Declaration House, and within walking distance of Independence Hall. Congress debated and revised the wording of the Declaration, removing Jefferson's vigorous denunciation of King George III for allowing the Transatlantic Slave Trade to continue, finally approving it two days later on July 4.

And another interesting fact:

The only U.S. president to have been born on Independence Day was Calvin Coolidge, who was born on July 4, 1872.

May your 4th of July be a celebration of our independence as a nation and may we continue to remember that we are still “One nation under God”.

Have a safe and blessed holiday.

Mark Nixon