



Austro-American Association of Boston

and

Austrian-American Council, Massachusetts Chapter



The Honorable Deval Patrick
Governor of Massachusetts
The State House
Boston, MA 02133



Subject: Proclamation of September 26 as **Austrian-American Day**.

Dear Governor Patrick,

As is the case every year, Austrian-Americans all over the country, the Austrian-American Councils of the United States and the Austro-American Association of Boston will celebrate "Austrian-American Day" again this year. The official date is September 26, and will be celebrated on that day.

In this regard, we would like to ask your support again this year by proclaiming September 26 "AUSTRIAN-AMERICAN DAY" in Massachusetts. I am enclosing a copy of last year's proclamation in the hope that this will facilitate the process.

Every year on this day, Austrian-Americans celebrate the friendship between the United States and Austria that has lasted for over 60 years, dating back to the time when the United States supported Austria in regaining its independence after World War II.

Austrian-American Day also celebrates the contributions of Austrians and Americans of Austrian descent to American culture, science, and technology and to the American way of life. Besides ordinary people like most of us, who vote and pay taxes and share our cultural inheritance with others, many famous Americans have Austrian roots. Among them are Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter, Nobel Prize recipients Victor Franz Hess (physics), Karl Landsteiner (medicine), and Friedrich von Hayek (economics); John D. Hertz of Hertz Rent-A-Car, John Kohler, the bathroom equipment giant, and Raoul F. Fleischman, the founder of the "New Yorker" magazine; in show business and music, Billy Wilder, Otto Preminger, and Frederic Loewe (of Lerner and Loewe); and, of course, we must not forget the former Governor of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger. Among well-known Austrians who lived in Massachusetts are Harvard Professor Josef Schumpeter (economics), and MIT Professor Victor Weisskopf (physics), well known for his work on the Manhattan Project.

As do many other ethnic groups, we enjoy celebrating our heritage by inviting our friends and neighbors to a festive event with great music and food to show the world how proud we are to be Austrian-Americans.

Governor Patrick, we do hope very much that we will be able to count on your help, and that you will support a proclamation declaring September 26, 2014, "AUSTRIAN-AMERICAN DAY".

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

R. Traudwig Schieber-Acker
President

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Austrian-American Council, Massachusetts Chapter

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