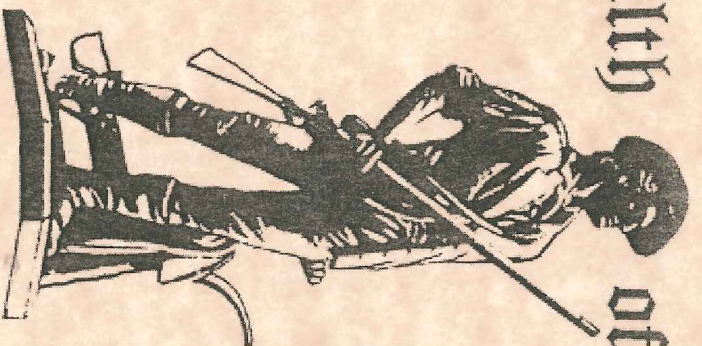


Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

- Whereas** Every child deserves a loving family; and
- Whereas** Currently, 2,200 children of varied ethnic backgrounds in the custody of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are in need of loving adoptive families to provide permanent nurturing homes; and
- Whereas** Adoptive parents open their hearts and homes to these children, providing them with love, hope, guidance and the opportunity for a better future; and
- Whereas** The Massachusetts Department of Children and Families and many other public and private organizations are dedicated to finding permanent families for every child; and
- Whereas** As the holidays near and families make plans to come together, it is fitting to celebrate those families that have been formed through the adoption of infants, toddlers, siblings, school-aged children, children with disabilities and children of diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds; and
- Whereas** It is appropriate for all Massachusetts citizens to recognize the large number of children waiting to be adopted, and the outstanding commitment and service provided by dedicated adoptive parents,

Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim November 22nd, 2013, to be,

MASSACHUSETTS ADOPTION DAY

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this eighteenth day of November, in the year two thousand and thirteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-seventh.

By His Excellency

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH



WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts