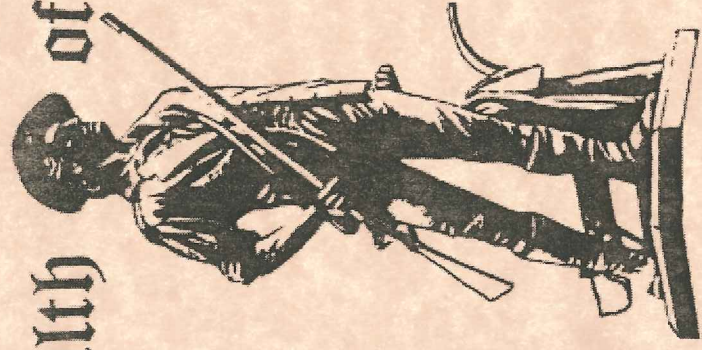


# Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

- Whereas** A disability may be from birth or as a result of injury, accident or illness; and
- Whereas** A disability can include any long-term physical, mental, emotional, or developmental issue that currently has or has had a substantial effect on daily activities; and
- Whereas** There are currently 56 million people in the United States living with a disability; and
- Whereas** Americans with disabilities play a critical role in forming our nation's identity; and
- Whereas** Employment offers people with disabilities greater personal freedom and opportunity to socialize in professional work environments; and
- Whereas** Employment enables people with disabilities to obtain financial stability, affordable and accessible housing, transportation, and health care; and
- Whereas** Through public awareness, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts seeks to continue its support for employers in the public and private sector to ensure that all disabled persons receive adequate and appropriate employment opportunities,

**Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick**, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim October 2014, to be,

## DISABILITY EMPLOYER AWARENESS MONTH

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 ninth day of September, in the year two thousand and fourteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-eighth.

By His Excellency

DEVAL L. PATRICK  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts