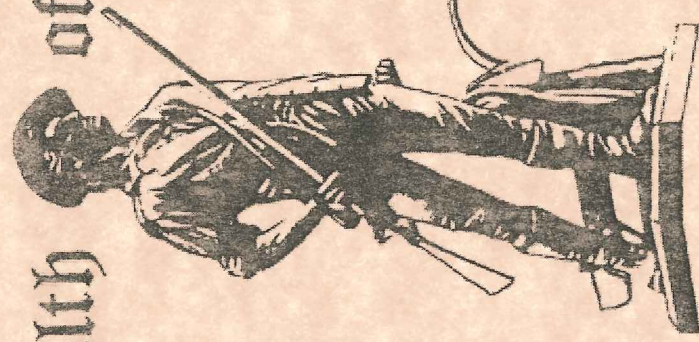


Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

- Whereas** Massachusetts is home to a vibrant and diverse population. This week we welcome and join all members of the LGBT community in celebrating their diversity and their involvement in our Commonwealth; and
- Whereas** All citizens come before their government as equals and government cannot discriminate against its citizens; and
- Whereas** This year we mark the 10th anniversary of marriage equality in the Commonwealth, a result of the decision in *Goodridge v. Department of Public Health*, the landmark Supreme Judicial Court case that stated that same-sex couples have the right to marry; and
- Whereas** This year's Pride Week, themed "Be Yourself, Change The World" encourages the LGBT community to embrace what makes each individual unique and to use those qualities to change the world for the better; and
- Whereas** We are thankful for the many contributions members of the LGBT community continue to make within our Commonwealth,

Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim June 6th -- 15th, 2014, to be,

PRIDE WEEK

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, twenty-first day of May, in the year two thousand and fourteen, 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