

# THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS



## A PROCLAMATION



BY HIS EXCELLENCY

GOVERNOR DEVAL L. PATRICK

**Whereas** In 1809, John Quincy Adams, a native son of Massachusetts, was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to the Russian Court in St. Petersburg by President James Madison, thus making him the first official United States representative to Russia; and

**Whereas** Due to the bonds developed between Adams and Tsar Alexander, Russia offered to mediate negotiations to end the War of 1812 between the United States and England. This negotiation resulted in the Treaty of Ghent; and

**Whereas** From 1809 to 1814, Russia was the only European outlet for American trade due to the French and English blockades that closed other European ports to United States ships; and

**Whereas** Since 1809, diplomats from the United States to Russia have included two future presidents, several future cabinet secretaries, members of Congress and leaders in business; and

**Whereas** As we reflect upon the 200 years of United States and Russian diplomatic relations, we mark the ties between our countries and look forward to a stronger relationship in the future,

**Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick,** Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007, to be

## UNITED STATES & RUSSIA DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS 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 twenty-sixth day of September, in the year two thousand and seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-first.

By His Excellency

DEVAL L. PATRICK  
Governor of the Commonwealth

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
Secretary of the Commonwealth

GOD SAVE THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS