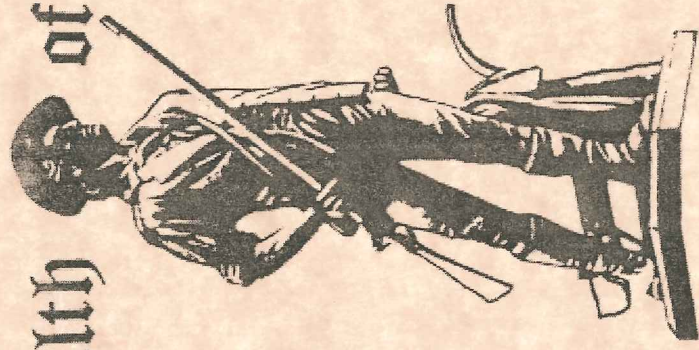


Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

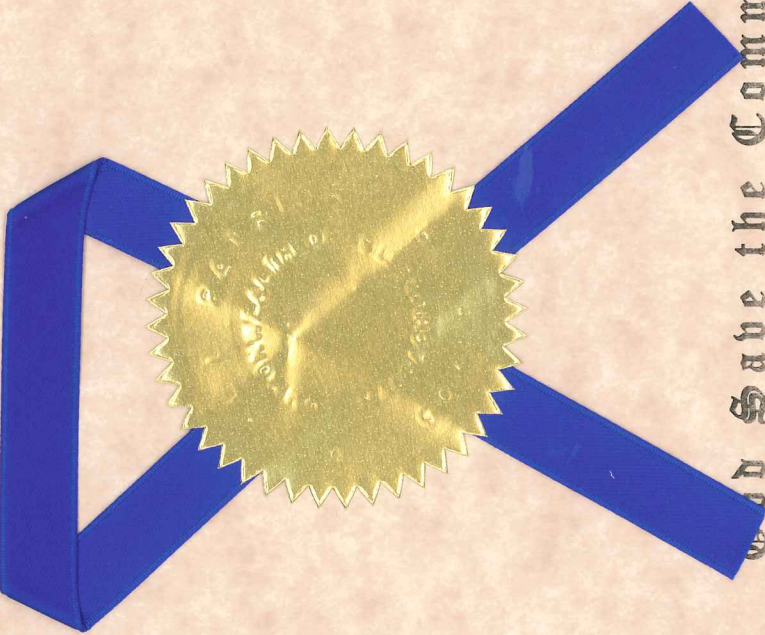
- Whereas** Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a chronic, potentially life-threatening condition caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV); and
- Whereas** Infections can occur through the transfer of fluids during unsafe sex with an infected person, the transfer of blood, or through the transfer of breast milk; and
- Whereas** More than one million people are living with HIV in the United States and one in five of those infected are unaware of their infection; and
- Whereas** Signs and symptoms of HIV are very similar and commonly mistaken with flu-like symptoms, respiratory, or gastrointestinal infections and an acute illness with more severe flu-like symptoms after three months of infection; and
- Whereas** Fifteen percent of all new HIV/AIDS cases in the United States occur among people aged 50 or older; and
- Whereas** According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, by 2015, fifty percent of all people with HIV/AIDS will be over the age of fifty; and
- Whereas** There is no identifiable cure for HIV/AIDS, but anti-viral treatments and HIV medication work to improve the immune system and allow people to live fruitful lives; and
- Whereas** Through public awareness the Commonwealth of Massachusetts seeks to provide an opportunity for all people to learn more about the prevention, testing and treatment needs of our aging population,

Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim September 22nd, 2014, to be,

HIV/AIDS AND AGING AWARENESS 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 twelfth 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.

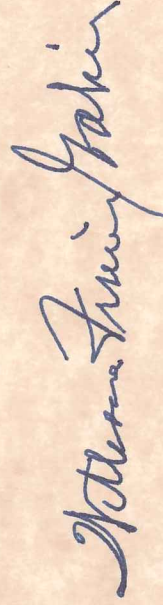


By His Excellency



DEVAL L. PATRICK

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH



WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

and save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts