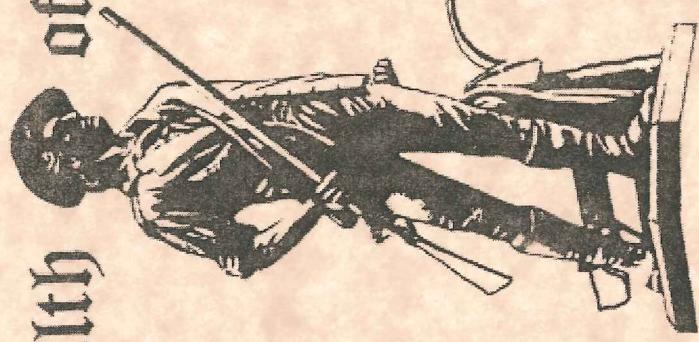


Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

Whereas African immigrants continue to be a vital part of the Commonwealth's rich diversity by contributing significantly to all aspects of daily life, including education, medicine, commerce, agriculture, public service, technology and the arts; and

Whereas African Union Day is celebrated on September 9th and in May of 2013 the United States Congress commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the creation of the Organization of African Unity (now known as the African Union); and

Whereas According to the 2010 US Census, African immigrants are well-represented in healthcare professions, thus, the Commonwealth recognizes the contributions of African immigrant healthcare workers, healthcare business owners and healthcare students across Massachusetts; and

Whereas Raising awareness about the health issues facing African immigrants is crucial to effectively minimizing health disparities within the community; and

Whereas A healthy and vibrant African community will continue to enrich American life with its heritage and culture; and

Whereas It is appropriate that all residents recognize African immigrants for their many contributions to the cities and towns across our Commonwealth,

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

AFRICAN IMMIGRANT HEALTH AND HERITAGE MONTH

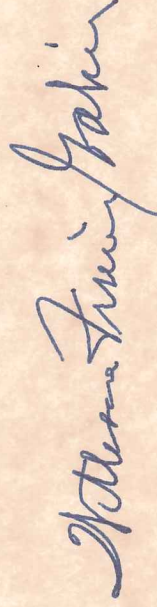
And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this nineteenth day of August, 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