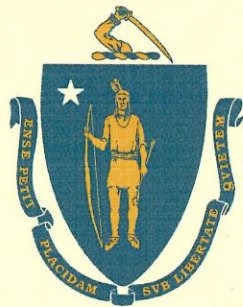


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, Families serve as a primary source of love, identity, self-esteem, safety and support, helping form the foundation of our communities; and

Whereas, Massachusetts is home to over 8,000 children and youth in foster care who require safe, loving and stable homes; and

Whereas, Foster care provides a supportive environment for children while working towards the goal of family reunification, acknowledging the dedication of families striving to stay together; and

Whereas, Foster parents, kinship caregivers, child welfare professionals, mentors, policymakers and community members play a vital role in ensuring the well-being and success of children and youth in foster care; and

Whereas, There remains an ongoing need for dedicated foster families to provide safe and loving homes for children and youth, especially teenagers, in our community; and

Whereas, Foster Care Month, observed each May, provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the need for access to preparedness for independent living, housing, health/mental health care, educational stability, career/vocational opportunities, and building and maintaining supportive relationships of children and youth in foster care and to acknowledge the efforts of those who work to support them; and

Whereas, Massachusetts Department of Children & Families, in partnership with nonprofit organizations, will honor their commitment to offering alumni of foster care a lifetime of community and support through education, employment, service, vocational training and leadership opportunities; and

Whereas, Recognizing the third week of May as Foster Care Alumni Week, celebrating the resiliency and accomplishments of people with lived experience in foster care who contribute meaningfully to our communities; and

Whereas, Massachusetts is committed to supporting initiatives that promote the well-being, permanency and safety of children and youth in foster care, as well as supporting the alumni of foster care as they transition into adulthood;

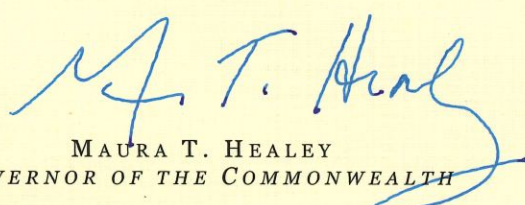
Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim May 2025, to be,

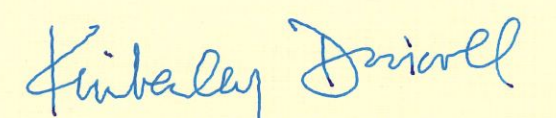
FOSTER CARE MONTH


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

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of May, in the year two thousand and twenty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-eighth.

BY HER EXCELLENCY


MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH


KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH


WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts