

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas Agriculture plays a vital role in Massachusetts' culture, heritage and economy; and

Whereas Farm to school programs inspire local school districts to incorporate local ingredients into school meals by connecting them with Massachusetts farmers, growers, and food producers; and

Whereas School meals represent an important potential market that can help support Massachusetts farmers, growers, and food producers year-round; and

Whereas Garden-based learning and nutrition education programs have been shown to improve children's eating behaviors and enhance academic achievement; and

Whereas By providing school cafeterias healthy, fresh foods grown close to home, all Massachusetts children are granted access to improved nutrition through farm to school programs; and

Whereas 190 public school districts in Massachusetts, representing 1,171 schools with an estimated 596,193 students are participating in farm to school programs, and 114 farms across Massachusetts are selling their fresh products to cafeterias,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim October 2015, to be,

MASSACHUSETTS FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH

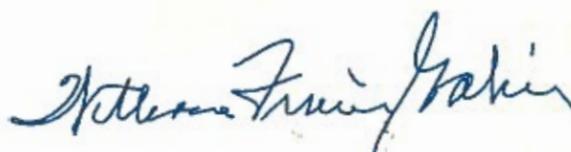
And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this Seventh Day of October, in the year two thousand and fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-ninth.

BY HIS EXCELLENCE


CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH


KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH


WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts