

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

**W**hereas The General Assembly of the United Nations approved the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on December 10, 1948, declaring that "recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world"; and

**W**hereas The United States played a pivotal role in the creation of the Universal Declaration; and

**W**hereas The basic human rights addressed in the Universal Declaration include economic, social, and cultural rights, as well as civil and political rights, all considered to be equally important in fostering human dignity and freedom; and

**W**hereas The Universal Declaration calls for all people and governments at all levels to promote and respect the rights that it recognizes, and provides a standard of achievement for governments throughout the world; and

**W**hereas Each year on December 10, the international community commemorates this event and recommits itself to the broader achievement of human rights and lowering barriers to full public participation; and

**W**hereas The Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination are proud of their commitment to guarantee civil and human rights for all its residents,

**N**ow, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009, to be

## HUMAN RIGHTS 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 tenth day of December, in the year two thousand and nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-third.



By His Excellency

DEVAL L. PATRICK  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts