

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

Whereas, Every citizen of the Commonwealth has the right to lead a full and independent life, one which includes education, productive employment and access to the community; and

Whereas, By allowing every citizen who is blind to move freely and safely from place to place, a white cane enhances an individual's potential for full participation in society; and

Whereas, We recognize the importance of Orientation and Mobility training for children and adults learning how to use a white cane to access the community; and

Whereas, The law requires that motorists come to a full stop when a pedestrian using a white cane or guide dog is crossing a street; and

Whereas, Through public awareness, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts encourages all citizens to recognize a white cane as a tool of independence for pedestrians who are blind,

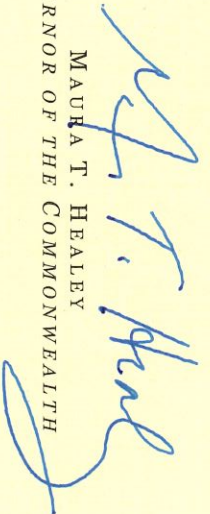
Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to be,

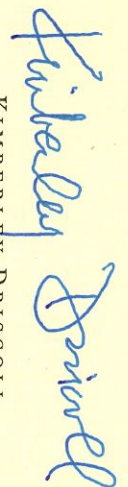
## WHITE CANE AWARENESS DAY

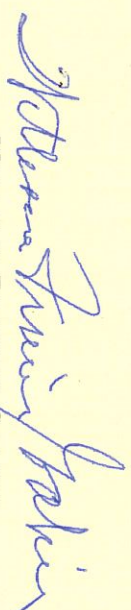
And urge all residents of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

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

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