

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

*Whereas, The Deaf and Hard of Hearing community within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts represents a vital and integral part of our population, contributing significantly to the cultural, social and economic fabric of our state; and*

*Whereas, American Sign Language (ASL) is the primary language for many Deaf individuals and serves as a crucial medium for communication, education and cultural expression; and*

*Whereas, Increasing public awareness and understanding of Deaf culture, communication access needs, and the challenges faced by Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals promotes equity, inclusion and full participation in all aspects of society; and*

*Whereas, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts recognizes September as Deaf Awareness Month in alignment with national observances to honor and celebrate the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community; and*

*Whereas, Massachusetts is committed to advancing accessibility, inclusion and equal opportunity for Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals in education, employment, healthcare and public services,*

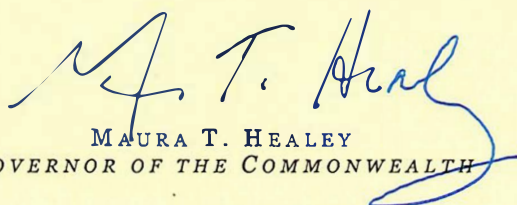
*Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim September 2025, to be,*

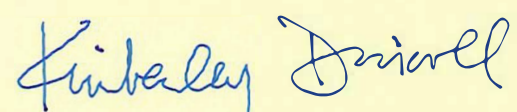
## DEAF AWARENESS MONTH


*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 September, in the year two thousand and twenty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-ninth.*

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*