

A Proclamation

Whereas, Massachusetts has a vibrant agricultural industry which is part of the state's cultural heritage; and

Whereas, Massachusetts has 7,755 farms, preserving 523,000 acres of open space; and

Whereas, Farmers Markets create economic vitality for Massachusetts food producers as well as for the communities where the markets are located; and

Whereas, Farmers Markets serve as a public and community driven gathering place where residents can interact with farmers and one another; and

 ${m W}$ hereas, Farmers Markets help to build a strong, sustainable local food system; and

Whereas, Farmers Markets create healthier residents by providing access to fresh, healthy foods, including SNAP and WIC Program participants and seniors; and

Whereas, It is befitting for the citizens of Massachusetts to celebrate farmers markets positive contributions to the economy, public health and the local communities who host them,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim August 5th-11th 2018, to be,

MASSACHUSETTS FARMERS MARKET WEEK

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 first day of August, in the year two thousand and eighteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-second.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH