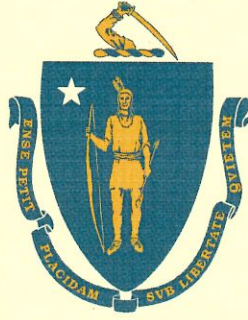


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, The state's geographic landscape and data play a crucial role in understanding the history of Massachusetts and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) serve as a framework for gathering, managing, analyzing and displaying location-based information; and

Whereas, An understanding of geography and its applications in GIS help stakeholders and community leaders make more informed decisions around education, health care, public safety, transportation planning, preservation of natural resources, employment opportunities and more; and

Whereas, The Massachusetts geospatial community coordinates these efforts to minimize duplication, reduce costs, develop standards, inform high quality decision-making, influence outcomes and facilitate the sharing and interchange of geospatial data and knowledge; and

Whereas, A regional GIS hub has been established at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst to educate the next generation of the geospatial workforce and to provide support for local governments that use GIS to make better decisions for resilient communities, plant and animal species, watershed health, business concerns, and public health; and

Whereas, Massachusetts has been working closely with the other New England states and many federal agencies to update and improve data about water and elevation across the region, which will have positive impacts for our climate resilience, public water supply protection, flooding mitigation, stormwater infrastructure planning, and much more; and

Whereas, The free flow of geospatial data enables better decisions to be made for resilient communities, plant and animal species, watershed health, business concerns and public health. There is a need to promote GIS awareness, education and technical training among various groups across the state and a need to encourage the understanding of how leveraging geospatial data enhances the lives of all Massachusetts residents,

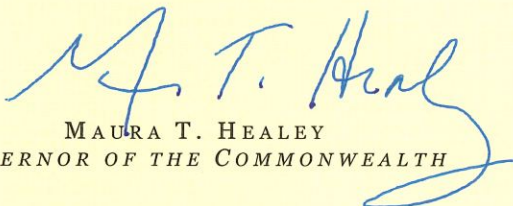
Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim November 20th, 2024, to be,

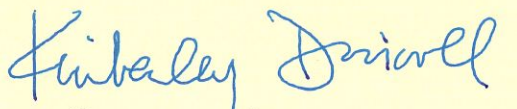
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS DAY

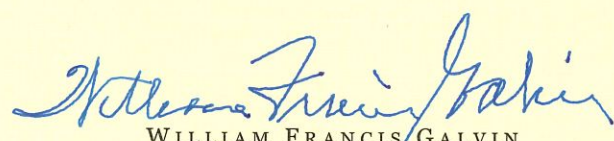
And urge all residents of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

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

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