

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, The Boston Celtics are unquestionably the greatest franchise in basketball history, founded in 1946 as an original member of what became the National Basketball Association, winning their first of a record 18 championships in 1957 under legendary coach Arnold "Red" Auerbach, and featuring Hall of Fame players like Bob Cousy, Bill Russell, Tom Heinsohn, K.C. Jones, Sam Jones, John Havlicek, Larry Bird, Paul Pierce, and Kevin Garnett, among many others; and

Whereas, The Celtics have not only been the best team on the court, they also have led the movement for social justice in sports, including by fielding the League's first all-Black starting five, appointing the League's first Black head coach in Bill Russell at a time when Russell was a leading voice in the Civil Rights Movement, and continuing today to set the standard for community engagement in professional sports; and

Whereas, The 2023-2024 Celtics upheld and added to this legacy by achieving one of the greatest seasons in NBA history, winning 64 regular season games, going 16-3 in the playoffs, having the most efficient offense ever recorded and the fifth-best point differential in league history, outscoring opponents by an average of 11 points on the way to winning the Celtics' 18th NBA Championship; and

Whereas, On a squad that embodied the strength of teamwork, the 2023-2024 Celtics featured outstanding individual achievements, including NBA Executive of the Year Brad Stevens, Coach Joe Mazzulla who now owns the highest winning percentage of any coach in NBA history, first Team All-NBA Forward Jayson Tatum, Finals MVP Jaylen Brown, All Defensive Team guards Derrick White and Jrue Holiday, first Dominican NBA Champion Al Horford and first Latvian NBA Champion Kristaps Porzingis; and

Whereas, The Celtics' continued excellence brings joy to the residents of Massachusetts and basketball fans around the world, their commitment to hard work and team unity offers a powerful example to young people, and their devotion to community uplifts our state, reflects our shared values, and makes us proud; and

Whereas, In recognition of this all-time great championship season for our beloved Boston Celtics,

Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim October 22nd, 2024, to be,

CELTICS BANNER 18 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-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

A blue ink signature of Maura T. Healey, written in a cursive style.

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

A blue ink signature of Kimberley Driscoll, written in a cursive style.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

A blue ink signature of William Francis Galvin, written in a cursive style.

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts