A Proclamation

Whereas, On February 24, 1919, twenty-two suffragists attempted to picket President Woodrow Wilson in front of the Massachusetts State House; and

Whereas, The US House of Representatives had passed the 19th Amendment and if one additional vote could be obtained, it would pass the US Senate and thus Congress; and

Whereas, The suffragists wanted President Wilson to pressure the US Senate for that last vote so that it would adopt the 19th Amendment before Congress adjourned in eight days; and

Whereas, Sixteen of the twenty-two suffragists picketing President Wilson at the Massachusetts State House were sentenced to serve time in the Charles Street Jail; and

Whereas, These strong, bold and remarkable women were the last suffragists jailed in the United States in the effort to obtain the vote for women; and

Whereas, The Women's Suffrage Celebration Coalition of Massachusetts, the Brandeis University Women's Studies Research Center, the Boston Women's Heritage Trail and We Did It For You! Women's Journey Through History are commemorating the centennial of the brave suffragists who protested and were jailed to achieve the vote for women; and

Whereas, Those strong, bold and remarkable suffragists inspire us today to continue to work towards full equality for all women,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim February 24, 2019, to be,

JAILED FOR FREEDOM DAY

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 twenty-second day of February, in the year two thousand and nineteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-second.

By His Excellency

Charles Baker
Governor of the Commonwealth

Karyn E. Polito
Lt. Governor of the Commonwealth

William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts