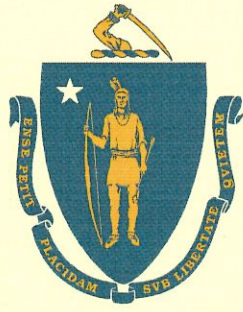


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, Inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, known as malnutrition, is prevalent in many groups, including vulnerable populations such as hospitalized patients and minority populations, with older adults having the highest rate of malnutrition compared to other groups; and

Whereas, Disease-related malnutrition is a highly prevalent form of malnutrition; and

Whereas, Over 2 million hospital stays each year involve malnutrition. Each day, approximately 15,000 hospital patients with malnutrition go undiagnosed; and

Whereas, Malnourished patients have two times longer hospital stays compared to patients with no malnutrition; and

Whereas, Readmitted malnourished patients are twice as likely to be diagnosed with an infection; and

Whereas, Malnourished patients have two times higher hospital costs compared to the average cost of all hospital stays; and

Whereas, Readmitted malnourished patients have 22% higher hospital costs than readmitted patients with no malnutrition; and

Whereas, Malnourished patients have three times the mortality rate of all hospitalized patients; and

Whereas, 20% to 40% of adults in the community are at risk or have malnutrition, which leads to more complications, falls, and readmissions, plays a role in cognitive deterioration, decreases functional capacity, and affects quality of life,

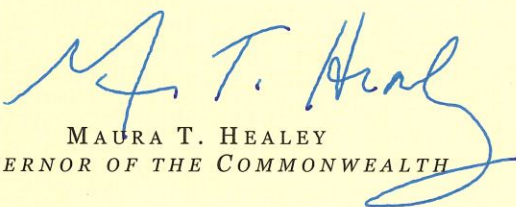
Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim September 16th through September 20th, 2024, to be,

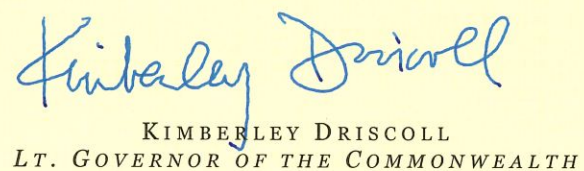
MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK

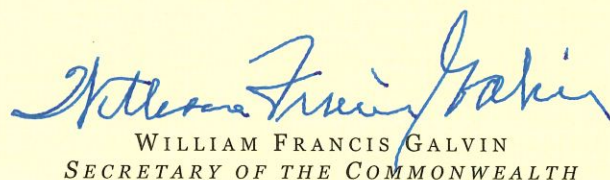
And urge all the residents of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of September, in the year two thousand and twenty-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