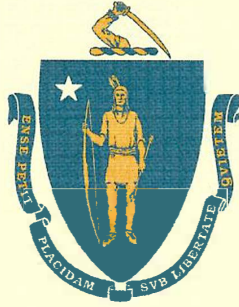


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, The first national "Co-op Month" was celebrated in 1964 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and has since been celebrated every October in the United States of America; and

Whereas, Co-operatives and credit unions are businesses that are locally owned by everyday people who join together to achieve shared goals, solve a challenge, or meet a community need; and

Whereas, Co-operatives are recognized in the laws and statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as member or user-owned, user governed and user benefiting businesses, with the use of the term "co-operative" limited to enterprises operating in this manner; and

Whereas, Co-operatives give people a real stake in their economic destiny and the future of their communities. They allow people to meet a wide variety of needs, goals and aspirations including healthy food, employment, farm products, financial services (credit unions), electric, telephone and cable services, health care, housing and insurance; and

Whereas, In the United States, there are about 65,000 co-operatives, and one out of every three people is a member of a at least one co-op or credit union. Around the world, there are about 3 million co-operatives, and about 12 percent of the human population are members of a co-op. About 10 percent of the world's population, or around 280 million people, are employed by co-ops; and

Whereas, Co-operatives play a major role in the regional economy of Massachusetts and the co-operative philosophy of working together for the common good has promoted community well-being and improved the quality of life for people in Massachusetts; and

Whereas, The United Nations has declared 2025 to be the Second International Year of Co-operatives, celebrating how "Co-operatives Build a Better World" and highlighting the contribution of the co-ops to sustainable development, economic inclusion and resilient communities,

Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim October 2025, to be,

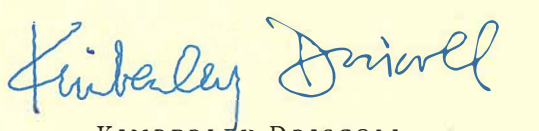
CO-OP MONTH

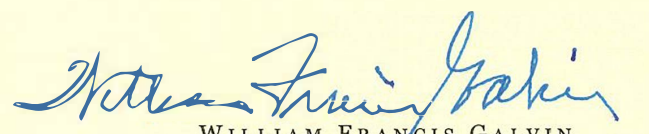
And urge all residents of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

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

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