A Proclamation

Whereas, Throughout Massachusetts, individuals, families, and communities have been experiencing a public health epidemic related to opioids, alcohol and other drugs; and

Whereas, It is time to end a drug epidemic taking the lives of at least 5 people every day; and

Whereas, We know, addiction is a chronic but treatable disease and recovery is possible with the support of a seamless continuum of care where all can get the right help at the right time; and

Whereas, We seek to continue to build a recovery-informed society where recovery becomes a societal "norm" and prevention a societal "given"; and

Whereas, It is time to spread the word that the Commonwealth supports Narcan, a medicine that reverses what could be a fatal opioid overdose; and

Whereas, It is time to recognize the expanding peer recovery support services such as recovery centers and recovery coaches, within a growing network of recovery community organizations; and

Whereas, It is important to recognize that prescription monitoring is about saving lives, and all healthcare professionals will seize the opportunity to use it for a better tomorrow; and

Whereas, We honor the individuals in recovery, families and friends, who educate the public about the value of recovery and its multiple pathways; and

Whereas, It is crucial for all Bay State residents to move towards a Commonwealth where addiction is treated as a significant public health issue and recovery is recognized as valuable to all our communities,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2020, to be,

MASSACHUSETTS RECOVERY MONTH

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 first day of September, in the year two thousand and twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fourth.

By His Excellency

Charles D. 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