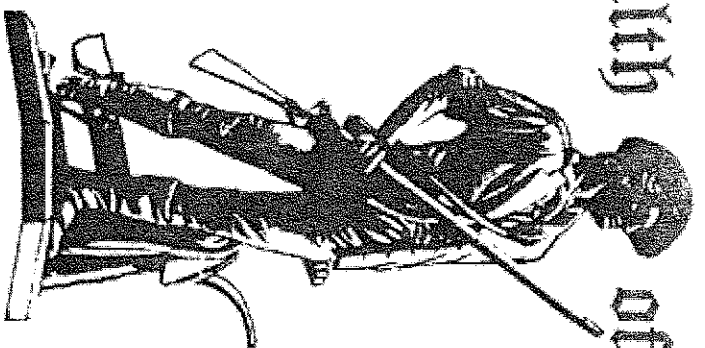


Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

- Whereas** Direct support professionals, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals are the primary providers of publicly-funded long term supports and services for millions of individuals; and
- Whereas** A direct support professional must build a close, trusted relationship with an individual with disabilities and assist that individual with the most intimate needs, on a daily basis; and
- Whereas** A direct support professional provides essential support to help keep an individual with disabilities connected to the family and community of the individual; and
- Whereas** Direct support professionals enable individuals with disabilities to live meaningful, productive lives and avoid more costly institutional care; and
- Whereas** The Commonwealth recognizes the important role direct support professionals play in improving the quality of life and care of people across Massachusetts,
- Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick**, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim September 8th-14th, 2013, to be,

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS
RECOGNITION WEEK

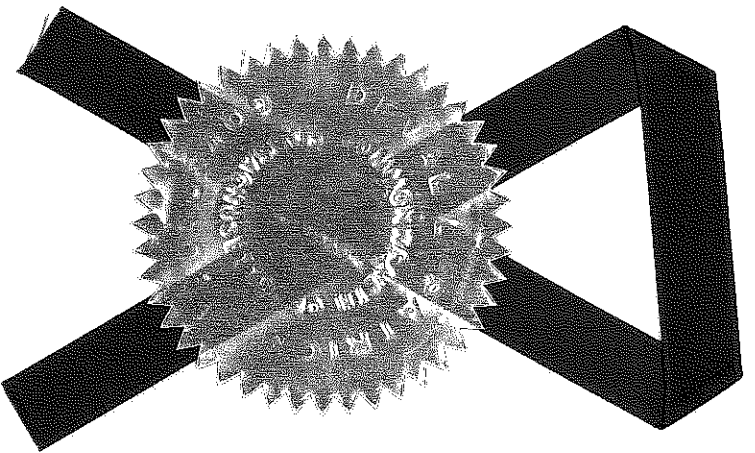
And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this twenty-second day of August, in the year two thousand and thirteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-seventh.

By His Excellency

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH



God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts