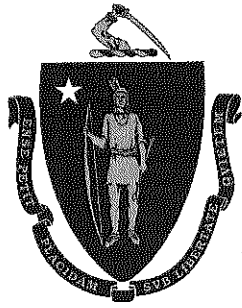


# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

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, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim the week of September 12<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 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 first day of September, in the year two thousand and sixteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and fortieth.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

Handwritten signature of Charles D. Baker in cursive.

CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of Karyn E. Polito in cursive.

KARYN E. POLITO  
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of William Francis Galvin in cursive.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts