

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, Several prominent Massachusetts residents, including William S. Clark, Horace Capron, William Wheeler and Benjamin Lyman were influential in the educational affairs of Hokkaido during the Meiji Period of Japan; and

Whereas, Since their founding in the 19th century, there have been educational exchanges between faculty, staff, and students at the University of Massachusetts and Hokkaido University; and

Whereas, The Massachusetts-Hokkaido relationship became official in 1990 when Governor Michael Dukakis and Governor Takahiro Yokomichi established sister-state relations and the anniversary dates of this signing ceremony have been celebrated on both sides of the Pacific; and

Whereas, Since the official relationship was established, there have been mutually beneficial exchanges between Massachusetts and Hokkaido communities, colleges and universities, secondary schools, citizens' groups and other program; and

Whereas, Massachusetts Day is celebrated annually in Hokkaido; and

Whereas, It is recognized that Massachusetts and Hokkaido historically and currently share an important and close relationship and that such relationship should be expanded in the future,

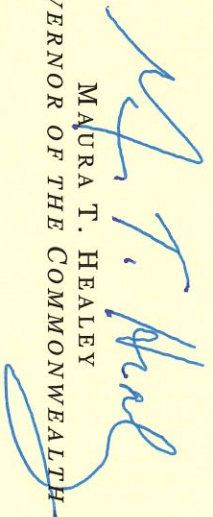
Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim October 22nd, 2025, to be,

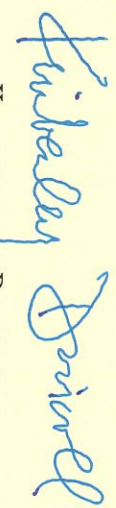
HOKKAIDO DAY


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 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