PAIN AWARENESS MONTH

By the Executive

Gubernatorial Order in Council No. 2, of October 12, 2021

WHEREAS, pain is a major public health problem and is one of the most common reasons for visits to health care providers, and it is also a significant public health issue because pain affects not just physical health but also mental health and quality of life, and pain treatment is often inadequate and insufficient;

WHEREAS, chronic pain can lead to increased disability, reduced productivity, and decreased quality of life, and pain is also a significant economic burden to the state, with an estimated $56 billion in annual costs; and

WHEREAS, the legislature of the Commonwealth has found that pain costs the state’s economic climate in a variety of ways, including decreased productivity, increased health care costs, and decreased work productivity;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHARLES D. BAKER, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim the month of September of each year Pain Awareness Month in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to encourage the public to learn more about pain management and to support the development of effective pain care programs and services.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be affixed.

A PROCLAMATION

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts