

Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

Whereas Many children across the Commonwealth preparing for the start of another school year will begin their studies with undiagnosed and untreated vision problems; and

Whereas According to the College of Optometrists in Vision Development, research shows that vision disorders are the number one handicapping condition of children and as many as one in four school age children have vision problems; and

Whereas All children deserve the opportunity to learn and to achieve their full potential; and

Whereas It is important to raise public awareness and encourage parents, educators, school nurses and all concerned adults to recognize the critical role good vision plays in the learning process and to work together to help prevent or reduce the impact untreated vision problems can have on our children's ability to read and learn,

Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim August 2008 to be,

CHILDREN'S VISION & LEARNING 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, twenty-third day of July, in the year two thousand and eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-second.

By His Excellency

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deval L. Patrick". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a faint, light-colored background.

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Francis Galvin". The signature is cursive and written in black ink.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts