

A Proclamation

Whereas, We recognize the vital role that technology has in our daily lives and in the future of the Commonwealth and our nation, whereby today many citizens, municipalities, schools, libraries, businesses, and other organizations use the Internet for a variety of tasks, including keeping in contact with family and friends, managing personal finances, performing research, enhancing education, and conducting business; and

Whereas, Critical sectors are increasingly reliant on information systems to support data exchange, financial services, energy management, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care, and emergency response systems; and

Whereas, Internet users and our information infrastructure face an ever-increasing threat of malicious cyberattacks, loss of privacy from spyware and adware, and significant financial and personal privacy losses due to identity theft and fraud; and

Whereas, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is a national leader with global impact developing and deploying cybersecurity technologies and systems and is home to world-class cybersecurity companies, research & development centers, universities, and talent; and

Whereas, Cyber resilience is critical to protecting our overall economy as well as a driver of future growth; and

Whereas, The Cyber Resilient Massachusetts Working Group is bringing together public- and privatesector leaders to identify ways the Commonwealth's innovative technology ecosystem can help Massachusetts municipalities and critical institutions protect sensitive data, increase cybersecurity awareness, and respond to emerging threats; and

Whereas, October is National Cybersecurity Awareness month, and "Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart." serves as the national cybersecurity public awareness campaign, implemented through a coalition of private companies, nonprofit, government organizations, and academic institutions working together to increase the public's understanding of cyber threats and empowering Americans to take proactive steps to enhance their cybersecurity; and

Whereas, The MassCyberCenter at the MassTech Collaborative, on behalf of the Commonwealth, is coordinating with public and private sector leaders to host and promote events statewide to bring partners together, to engage municipal leaders, to highlight our top cybersecurity ecosystem, to encourage diverse talent to enter the cybersecurity profession, to celebrate our world-class cybersecurity workforce, and to promote the theme for Massachusetts Cybersecurity Month -"Collaborating for a Secure Future";

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim October 2020, to be,

MASSACHUSETTS CYBERSECURITY 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, this first day of October, in the year two thousand and twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fourth.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH