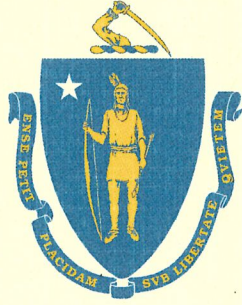


# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

Whereas, Massachusetts is facing the most significant health crisis in modern history due to COVID-19, which has caused significant health and financial impacts to residents of the Commonwealth, impacting their ability to access health insurance; and

Whereas, To slow the spread of COVID-19, individual and community health can be improved dramatically by covering your mouth and nose, wearing a mask, and practicing social distancing; and

Whereas, Affordable, quality health insurance coverage ensures access to care and makes a material difference in the health and well-being of the people of Massachusetts; and

Whereas, Access to health insurance is important because those without coverage are less likely to see a doctor when they become ill or for treatment of a chronic condition and forgo necessary care until their condition becomes intolerable; and

Whereas, Massachusetts remains the national leader in health care access, with 97 percent of residents covered; and

Whereas, The Massachusetts Health Connector provides access to affordable, quality coverage and health care to Massachusetts residents, which is especially important during the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic conditions; and

Whereas, Open Enrollment at the Health Connector runs through January 23, 2021, providing access to quality health coverage to everyone in Massachusetts who needs it; and

Whereas, Leaders from across America have joined to launch a national movement to help address the COVID-19 pandemic by helping people protect themselves and making sure everyone who can, enrolls in health care coverage; and

Whereas, In recognition of "Get Covered 2021 Massachusetts Day" all residents are called upon to:

1. Cover Up for COVID - Practice the "3 W's" to reduce the risk of COVID-19 - Wear a mask; Wash your hands; and Watch your distance. Together these can help keep you and your community healthy and safe.
2. Cover yourself and Your Family - Enroll in coverage or renew your coverage, if you haven't already, and tell friends to check out: [www.MAhealthconnector.org](http://www.MAhealthconnector.org) to see possible health coverage options, whether they qualify for financial help and how they can get covered.
3. Cover Everyone - Support efforts to increase access to affordable meaningful health care coverage for all people in Massachusetts,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020, to be,

## GET COVERED 2021 MASSACHUSETTS DAY

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 tenth day of December, 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 EXCELLENCE

Handwritten signature of Charles D. Baker in blue ink.

CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of Karyn E. Polito in blue ink.

KARYN E. POLITO  
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of William Francis Galvin in blue ink.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts