

SENATE No. 2059

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cindy F. Friedman

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act designating July 8 as Massachusetts Emancipation Day a.k.a. Quock Walker Day.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Cindy F. Friedman</i>	<i>Fourth Middlesex</i>	
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/23/2021</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/23/2021</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Michael J. Barrett</i>	<i>Third Middlesex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>4/13/2021</i>

SENATE No. 2059

By Ms. Friedman, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2059) of Cindy F. Friedman, Anne M. Gobi, Jack Patrick Lewis, Joanne M. Comerford and other members of the General Court for legislation to designate July 8 as Massachusetts Emancipation Day a.k.a. Quock Walker Day. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act designating July 8 as Massachusetts Emancipation Day a.k.a. Quock Walker Day.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 6 of the General Laws, as so appearing in the 2018 official edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 15IIIIII, the following section:-

3 Section 15JJJJJJ. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart July 8th
4 as Massachusetts Emancipation Day a.k.a. Quock Walker Day, in recognition of July 8, 1783,
5 when the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled that the constitution of the
6 commonwealth’s declaration of rights rendered slavery unconstitutional, as well as the
7 significant contributions made by Quock Walker to abolish slavery in the commonwealth, and
8 recommending that the day be observed in an appropriate manner by the people.