

**HOUSE . . . . . No.**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Aaron Vega and Christine P. Barber*

*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 providing for the annual observance of Sikh Holidays.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>11/18/2019</i>
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/19/2019</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/19/2019</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>11/19/2019</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/19/2019</i>
<i>Maria Duaiame Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/19/2019</i>
<i>Alan Silvia</i>	<i>7th Bristol</i>	<i>11/19/2019</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/19/2019</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/19/2019</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>11/19/2019</i>
<i>Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/20/2019</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>	<i>11/20/2019</i>
<i>Jay D. Livingstone</i>	<i>8th Suffolk</i>	<i>11/20/2019</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/21/2019</i>
<i>James M. Kelcourse</i>	<i>1st Essex</i>	<i>11/21/2019</i>
<i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>	<i>5th Essex</i>	<i>11/21/2019</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>11/21/2019</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>11/21/2019</i>

<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>	<i>11/22/2019</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/22/2019</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>11/22/2019</i>
<i>John C. Velis</i>	<i>4th Hampden</i>	<i>11/22/2019</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>11/22/2019</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>11/25/2019</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>	<i>11/26/2019</i>

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By Representatives Vega of Holyoke and Barber of Somerville, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Aaron Vega, Christine P. Barber and others for the issuance of an annual proclamation by the Governor setting apart the month of April as Sikh appreciation month and to designate November 12 as world equality day. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act providing for the annual observance of Sikh Holidays.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to establish forthwith the annual observance of Sikh Appreciation Month and of World Equality Day, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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

1 Chapter 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 15JJJJJ,  
2 inserted by section 5 of chapter 41 of the acts of 2019, the following section:-

3 Section 15KKKKKK. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart the  
4 month of April as Sikh Appreciation Month in recognition of the significant contributions Sikhs  
5 have made to the commonwealth and to the United States. The governor shall recommend that  
6 said month be observed in an appropriate manner by the people. And the Governor shall  
7 designate November 12, the anniversary of the birth of Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, as  
8 "World Equality Day"