

# SENATE . . . . . No. 2704

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

SENATE, February 17, 2022.

The committee on Rules, to whom was referred the Senate Bill designating July 8 as Massachusetts Emancipation Day a.k.a. Quock Walker Day (Senate, No. 2059),-- reports, that the matter be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session with an amendment substituting a new draft entitled "An Act designating July 8 as Massachusetts Emancipation Day, also known as Quock Walker Day" (Senate, No. 2704).

For the committee,  
Joan B. Lovely

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act designating July 8 as Massachusetts Emancipation Day, also known as 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 Chapter 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section  
2 15MMMMMM the following section:-

3 Section 15NNNNNN. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart July  
4 8 as Massachusetts Emancipation Day, also known as Quock Walker Day, in recognition of the  
5 significant contributions made by Quock Walker to abolish slavery in the commonwealth and the  
6 court cases, which came to be known as the Quock Walker Cases, that culminated with Chief  
7 Justice William Cushing of the supreme judicial court declaring that slavery was incompatible  
8 with the constitution of the commonwealth, and recommending that the day be observed in an  
9 appropriate manner by the people.