# HOUSE . . . . . . . . . . . . . No. 3016

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

#### PRESENTED BY:

#### Mindy Domb and Natalie M. Blais

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 resolution:

Resolutions establishing the annual observance of COVID-19 Remembrance Day.

#### PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Mindy Domb	3rd Hampshire	1/20/2023
Natalie M. Blais	1st Franklin	1/20/2023
Lindsay N. Sabadosa	1st Hampshire	1/23/2023
Hannah Kane	11th Worcester	1/25/2023
Joanne M. Comerford	Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester	1/26/2023
Christopher Hendricks	11th Bristol	1/26/2023
Carmine Lawrence Gentile	13th Middlesex	1/27/2023
Carol A. Doherty	3rd Bristol	1/30/2023
Paul W. Mark	Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and Hampshire	1/30/2023
Tram T. Nguyen	18th Essex	1/30/2023
John J. Cronin	Worcester and Middlesex	1/30/2023
Meghan Kilcoyne	12th Worcester	2/1/2023
Patricia A. Duffy	5th Hampden	2/1/2023
Jacob R. Oliveira	Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester	2/3/2023
Barry R. Finegold	Second Essex and Middlesex	2/3/2023
Jay D. Livingstone	8th Suffolk	2/6/2023

Bud L. Williams	11th Hampden	2/6/2023
Steven Owens	29th Middlesex	2/6/2023
John Barrett, III	1st Berkshire	2/6/2023
Bradley H. Jones, Jr.	20th Middlesex	2/6/2023
Michelle M. DuBois	10th Plymouth	2/7/2023
Jason M. Lewis	Fifth Middlesex	2/13/2023
Colleen M. Garry	36th Middlesex	2/13/2023
Liz Miranda	Second Suffolk	2/13/2023
Patrick M. O'Connor	First Plymouth and Norfolk	2/13/2023
James B. Eldridge	Middlesex and Worcester	2/15/2023
David T. Vieira	3rd Barnstable	2/16/2023
Carlos González	10th Hampden	2/16/2023
Sal N. DiDomenico	Middlesex and Suffolk	2/21/2023
Kate Lipper-Garabedian	32nd Middlesex	2/22/2023
Daniel R. Carey	2nd Hampshire	2/23/2023
Danillo A. Sena	37th Middlesex	2/23/2023
Patrick Joseph Kearney	4th Plymouth	2/24/2023
William C. Galvin	6th Norfolk	3/1/2023
David Allen Robertson	19th Middlesex	3/1/2023
Michael O. Moore	Second Worcester	3/2/2023
Michael D. Brady	Second Plymouth and Norfolk	3/3/2023
Vanna Howard	17th Middlesex	3/5/2023
Jack Patrick Lewis	7th Middlesex	3/7/2023
Lydia Edwards	Third Suffolk	3/9/2023
Samantha Montaño	15th Suffolk	3/9/2023
Sean Garballey	23rd Middlesex	3/10/2023
James C. Arena-DeRosa	8th Middlesex	3/13/2023
Ryan M. Hamilton	15th Essex	3/13/2023
Natalie M. Higgins	4th Worcester	3/16/2023
David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf	17th Worcester	3/19/2023
John C. Velis	Hampden and Hampshire	3/21/2023
Estela A. Reyes	4th Essex	3/24/2023
Tommy Vitolo	15th Norfolk	4/4/2023
William J. Driscoll, Jr.	7th Norfolk	4/4/2023
Tackey Chan	2nd Norfolk	4/20/2023
Kip A. Diggs	2nd Barnstable	5/18/2023
Rebecca L. Rausch	Norfolk, Worcester and Middlesex	7/5/2023

## **HOUSE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . No. 3016**

By Representatives Domb of Amherst and Blais of Deerfield, a petition (accompanied by resolutions, House, No. 3016) of Mindy Domb, Natalie M. Blais and others for the annual issuance of a proclamation by the Governor designating the first Monday in March as COVID-19 remembrance day. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

# [SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION SEE HOUSE, NO. 4224 OF 2021-2022.]

### The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court (2023-2024)

Resolutions establishing the annual observance of COVID-19 Remembrance Day.

- SECTION 1. The General Court hereby finds and declares that:
- 2 (i) the 2019 novel coronavirus, SARS–CoV–2, also known as COVID-19, is a deadly
- 3 illness caused by a virus that can transmit from person to person;
- 4 (ii) in 2020, COVID-19 began to spread throughout the world, creating a global
- 5 pandemic that has had a catastrophic impact on human life, communities in the commonwealth,
- 6 communities in the United States and the United States economy;
- 7 (iii) in March 2020, communities in every state began to experience increased loss of life
- 8 and families lost loved ones, friends and neighbors to the virus;
- 9 (iv) the governor declared a state of emergency in response to the virus on March 10,
- 10 2020, which was subsequently terminated on June 15, 2021;

(v) beginning in 2020, many across the commonwealth and the United States were, and continue to be, personally impacted by COVID-19, including mourning their loved ones, friends and neighbors or suffering from the long-term health implications of the virus;

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- 14 (vi) as of January 2023, in the commonwealth, there have been more than 1.9 million known cases of COVID-19 and at least 21,500 people who have lost their lives as a result of COVID-19;
  - (vii) as of January 2023, in the United States, there have been more than 101.5 million known cases of the virus in the United States and at least 1 million people who have lost their lives as a result of COVID-19;
    - (vii) WHEREAS, COVID-19 has had a disproportionate impact on low-income communities and communities of color, people with disabilities, people with weakened immune systems, unhoused individuals, and those living in congregate settings, including long term care facilities, exacerbating preexisting inequities;
    - (viii) WHEREAS public servants, frontline and essential workers and health care professionals took selfless actions to protect their neighbors and communities and find innovative ways to provide services;
  - (x) WHEREAS local, state, tribal and federal government entities provided critical support to businesses, communities and the people of the commonwealth and the United States;
    - (xi) WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have an impact on the commonwealth, the United States and countries around the world; and

(xii) WHEREAS each life lost to COVID-19, each inequity brought to light and each sacrifice made shall never be forgotten.

SECTION 2. Chapter 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 15LLLLL the following section:-

Section 15MMMMMM. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart the first Monday in March as COVID-19 Remembrance Day, in recognition of those who died from 2019 novel coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, the suffering of those who contracted COVID-19 and survived but carry with them the long-term health implications of the virus, and to acknowledge the frontline and essential workers who provided services to our communities, and the selfless actions of the many residents of the commonwealth who volunteered to support their neighbors and communities during the COVID-19 pandemic including those members of the National Guard, and recommending the day be observed in an appropriate manner by the people of the commonwealth.