



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Injuries are the leading cause of death and disability to U.S. children 1- to 18-years-old; and

WHEREAS: Injuries are a significant problem in Massachusetts accounting for more than 4,500 deaths per year and over 650,000 nonfatal injuries treated at acute care hospitals; and

WHEREAS: Unintentional injuries are the leading cause of death for children ages 1-18 in Massachusetts and include deaths due to motor vehicle crashes, drownings, and poisonings; and

WHEREAS: The economic burden in 2015 was no less than \$3.5 billion in initial charges associated with injury-related hospital stays and emergency department visits; and

WHEREAS: While the number of injuries and deaths vary across the commonwealth, every municipality in Massachusetts is impacted by these events; and

WHEREAS: Many of these injuries and deaths are preventable with the use of safety practices and equipment and the implementation of strong legislation; and

WHEREAS: Hospitals, government agencies, community organizations, and other partners are crucial in promoting safe practices; and

WHEREAS: The Injury Free Coalition for Kids is today launching the first "National Injury Prevention Day"; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester is committed to promoting efforts in reducing injuries among children;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joseph M. Petty, Mayor, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Charter of the City of Worcester, do hereby proclaim Nov. 18, 2020, as

NATIONAL INJURY PREVENTION DAY

In the City of Worcester and urge all city residents to take cognizance of this important day, participate fittingly in its observance, and continue all efforts to reduce the risk of injuries in our City, the Commonwealth and the Nation.

Issued at Worcester November 18, 2020

**Joseph M. Petty
Mayor**

