

A Proclamation

Whereas, Each year, Massachusetts faces catastrophic events such as hurricanes, flooding, tornadoes, and other natural disasters, all of which carry the potential to cause serious damage - or, even worse, total destruction - to private property and residential homes; and

Whereas, Following disasters, stressed and financially strained homeowners are vulnerable to predatory practices from dishonest contractors who fraudulently inflate repair or rebuild costs; and

Whereas, Predatory practices by certain nefarious contractors ultimately increase costs for all consumers by driving up insurance premiums and forcing insurers to reevaluate risk; and

Whereas, It is imperative that an effective public outreach campaign highlight the various types of contractor fraud schemes to help educate consumers on how to identify and avoid such deceptions; and

Whereas, The National Insurance Crime Bureau encourages Massachusetts residents to get at least three written estimates, check contractor credentials and references, and work closely with insurers during the entire rebuilding process when hiring a contractor; and

Whereas, the National Insurance Crime Bureau, in collaboration with its local and state partners in Massachusetts, including law enforcement, first responders, legislators, and state officials, are committed to educating Massachusetts residents about predatory practices by dishonest contractors; and

Whereas, The citizens of Massachusetts are encouraged to become familiar with contractor fraud and participate in the various programs during the third annual Contractor Fraud Awareness Week,

Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim May 22^{nd} - 26^{th} , 2023, to be,

CONTRACTOR FRAUD AWARENESS WEEK

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of May, in the year two thousand and twenty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-sixth.

BY HER EXCELLENCY

MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH