The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

By His Excellency

JOHN A. VOLPE
Governor

A PROCLAMATION
1965

WHEREAS, On May 20, 1965 we honor the 131st anniversary of the death of one of America's greatest friends, Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, and

WHEREAS, As a young man, Lafayette became inspired by the struggle of the American colonists for independence, and thereby began his long years of service to this country as a soldier, statesman and friend, and

WHEREAS, The young Frenchman forsook family life as well as his position and honors at home to help our young nation, participating in numerous battles as a General on Washington's staff, enduring hardships and setting a constant example of bravery, dignity and dedication to duty, and

WHEREAS, General Lafayette made clear the destiny of this nation when, in prophetic words, he wrote, "The happiness of America is ultimately connected with the happiness of all mankind; she is destined to become the safe and venerable asylum of virtue, of tolerance, of equality, and of peaceful liberty;"

NOW, therefore, I, JOHN A. VOLPE, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 148 of the Acts of 1935, do hereby proclaim as

LAFAYETTE DAY
May 20, 1965

and urge all citizens of the Commonwealth to observe this day by appropriate exercises in our schools, places of worship and other public assemblies.

GIVEN at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this fifteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and sixty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred and eighty-ninth.

JOHN A. VOLPE.

By His Excellency the Governor,
KEVIN H. WHITE,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

God Save The Commonwealth of Massachusetts