

Proclamation



CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

TIBET DAY MARCH 10, 2020

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, Tibetans across the world will gather to commemorate the 61st anniversary of the Tibetan National Uprising against the brutal occupation of their country and pay tribute to the more than one million Tibetans who lost their lives in their struggle for restoration of Tibet's freedom and

WHEREAS, the occupation and ongoing suppression of human rights and freedom in Tibet and the intentional marginalization of Tibetan language, culture and identity should continue to be a concern for all freedom-loving people everywhere; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2020 China's Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) passed the so called Ethnic Unity Law which further aims to curb the undiminished defiance of the Tibetan people and their call for the protection of their identity, for freedom, human rights and for the return of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to Tibet; and

WHEREAS, in December 2018, the President signed into law, the Reciprocal Access to Tibet Act (initiated by Representative Jim McGovern) passed by the United States House Congress, that called for an end to China's isolation of Tibet and providing American citizens, including Tibetan Americans in Amherst, with the same opportunity of access to Tibet as enjoyed by Chinese citizens visiting our country; and

WHEREAS, on January 28, 2020 the United States House of Representative with overwhelming bipartisan support passed the Tibet Policy and Support Act (H.R.4331) that dramatically upgrades United States political and humanitarian support for Tibetans, and the Senate version of the bill is currently before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations for approval; and

WHEREAS, The city of Northampton the town of Amherst are both homes to vibrant communities of Tibetan Americans who have contributed to the diversity of our culture and tradition; and

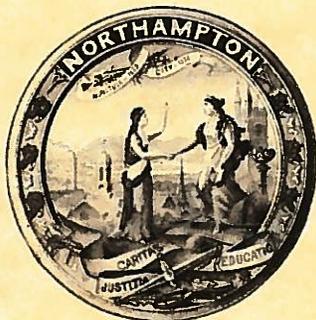
WHEREAS, to pay tribute to the brave men and women who have given their lives for the cause of freedom in Tibet, members of the Regional Tibetan Association of Massachusetts (based in Amherst) will hold a flag raising ceremony at 10:00 AM on March 10, 2020 in front of the Amherst Town Hall and a Walk for Tibet from Amherst to Northampton.

THEREFORE, I, David J. Narkewicz, Mayor of Northampton, do hereby proclaim March 10, 2020 to be:

TIBET DAY

and encourage all citizens of our city to learn about and commemorate this important anniversary.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Northampton, Massachusetts on this 10th day of March, 2020



A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'David J. Narkewicz'.

Mayor David J. Narkewicz