

WHEREAS: Charles "Chaz" Davis was raised in Grafton, Massachusetts where he attended Grafton High School, and is a resident of the City of Boston; and

WHEREAS: Chaz Davis earned a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology from the University of Hartford and a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Denver; and

WHEREAS: During his freshman year at the University of Hartford, Chaz experienced a sudden loss of vision and was later diagnosed with Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy; and

WHEREAS: In 2016, Chaz became a gold medalist at the 2016 U.S Paralympic Team Trials for the 1500m and 5000m Track & Field events which earned him a spot at the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games; and

WHEREAS: Later on that year, Chaz ran his debut marathon at the United States Association for Blind Athletes (USABA) Championship held at the California International Marathon (CIM) where he set a new American record for his division; and

WHEREAS: In 2019, Chaz joined the Massachusetts Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (MABVI) as an adjustment counselor and as the coordinator for Team With A Vision, an international team of runners whose goal is to raise awareness and funding for rehabilitation services, support groups, and assistive technology for individuals who are blind or visually impaired; **THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in a meeting assembled, does hereby declare "October 6, 2021" to be "Chaz Davis Day", a commemorative day in the City of Boston celebrating his personal achievements and dedication to individuals experiencing loss of vision and blindness across the City of Boston and Commonwealth of Massachusetts.