



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS:** The United Nations has declared 2012 the International Year of Cooperatives; and
- WHEREAS:** The International 2012 United Federation of Worker Cooperatives Conference will be held in June in Boston, bringing international attention to the cooperative businesses and initiatives in Massachusetts and Worcester in particular; and
- WHEREAS:** Cooperatives, in their various forms, promote the fullest possible participation in the economic and social development of all people, including women, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples, are becoming a major factor of economic and social development and contribute to the eradication of poverty; and
- WHEREAS:** The cooperative movement is alive and strong in the City of Worcester, MA, including worker cooperatives, a consumer food cooperative, housing cooperatives, artisan producer cooperatives, a time-banking cooperative, financial cooperatives (credit unions), and other membership-run cooperatives; and
- WHEREAS:** The City of Worcester recognizes of the contribution of cooperatives to urban economic development with regards to unemployment and underemployment

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Joseph M. Petty, do hereby proclaim **May, 2012, as**

MONTH OF THE COOPERATIVE

In the City of Worcester and encourage all residents to recognize and participate in its observance.

Issued at Worcester on this 1st day of May, 2012

**Joseph M. Petty
Mayor**