



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution of Virginia in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia is proud to be home to more than 73,000 children whose parents serve in the military stationed in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, April is Month of the Military Child, a special month to recognize and pay tribute to military families and their children for the daily sacrifices made, and for their commitment, courage, and unconditional support of our Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Virginia has one of the highest numbers of military school-age children in the nation and is committed to being an active participant in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children which facilitates military children transitioning in school systems across state lines; and

WHEREAS, the children of our service members continue to make significant contributions to schools, communities, the nation, and our Commonwealth, despite prolonged and repeated absences of one or both parents; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), Virginia's public schools remain committed to the care and education of the children of men and women of our armed forces; and

WHEREAS, by partnering with school liaison officers, military leaders, educators, and community organizations, VDOE provides the unique support needed for military service members and their families during all stages of transition and deployment; and

WHEREAS, Month of the Military Child reaffirms our commitment to ensuring excellence in schools, childcare, and youth services to military children who face unique challenges that other children their age never experience;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terence R. McAuliffe, do hereby recognize April 2017 as **MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth