



## 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 108,000 children (of whom 71,000 are school-aged) with parents serving 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. By partnering with school liaison officers, military leaders, educators, and community organizations, VDOE provides resources about 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 2016 as **MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

Handwritten signature of Terence R. McAuliffe in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Governor

Handwritten signature of J. Mark Stewart in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Secretary of the Commonwealth