



# CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

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

## MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

**WHEREAS,** Virginians have a proud history of service to the Armed Forces of the United States, with thousands sacrificing their lives in defense of our nation and in the name of freedom throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS,** the contributions and sacrifices made by military personnel from Virginia and Virginia's bases are vital to maintaining America's freedoms and the way of life enjoyed by her citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** the brave men and women who serve our nation in military uniforms are ardent defenders of the United States Constitution and preservers of the liberties upon which our nation was founded; and

**WHEREAS,** the families of men and women who serve in our nation's military make meaningful sacrifices and provide military personnel with familial support and dedication essential to their well-being; and

**WHEREAS,** Virginia's military communities are committed to providing an excellent quality of life for military families based in our Commonwealth; and

**WHEREAS,** it is important to instill in the youth of Virginia the significance of the contributions and the relevance of the history of our great nation that members of the United States Armed Forces have made in securing and protecting the freedoms that United States citizens enjoy today; and

**WHEREAS,** Virginians appreciate the value and importance of maintaining a strong, equipped, well-educated and well-trained military to safeguard our freedoms, as well as humanitarianism and peacekeeping efforts throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS,** the citizens of Virginia wish to recognize, honor, and show appreciation to all service members, past and present, and their families, and let the month of May be set apart to pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of the valiant men and women of America's Armed forces;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Timothy M. Kaine, do hereby recognize May 2009 as **MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH** in the **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.



Handwritten signature of Timothy M. Kaine in black ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Katherine F. Hanley in black ink.

Secretary of the Commonwealth