



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:

INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, intellectual disability is a condition affecting over 71,500 Virginia adults and children over age 6, while developmental disabilities are conservatively estimated to affect nearly 140,000 children and adults in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, people with intellectual or developmental disabilities have the capacity to learn, develop and grow, like all other citizens of our Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, people with intellectual or developmental disabilities have the ability to obtain meaningful employment and contribute to the economy of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Virginians with intellectual or developmental disabilities are valuable members of society and can gain great independence and productivity through community support; and

WHEREAS, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month provides the opportunity for all citizens to appreciate and recognize the tremendous value and potential of people with intellectual or developmental disabilities, and to recommit and dedicate ourselves to the empowerment, integration, employment and inclusion of every one of our citizens with intellectual or developmental disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert F. McDonnell, do hereby recognize March 2010 as **INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention to all of our citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia this 16th day of February, 2010.



Robert F. McDonnell

Governor

Janet Vestal Polarek

Secretary of the Commonwealth