



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:

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS DAY

WHEREAS, every child in Virginia is a precious individual, full of promise and great potential; and

WHEREAS, there are over one million children under the age of thirteen in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's early childhood professionals provide daily for these children to ensure their safety, health and well-being, and serve as role models to foster children's educational and social skills; and

WHEREAS, it is important to encourage professional levels of practice among those who have chosen to assist working families in the vital mission of safeguarding and nurturing children; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize and reward the efforts of those who are building Virginia's future, child by child, day by day; and

WHEREAS, Virginia commits to Smart Beginnings for its youngest citizens, with opportunities to Start Strong;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Timothy M. Kaine, do hereby recognize May 8, 2009 as **EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS DAY** 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