



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:

PARKINSON'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive neurological disorder of the central nervous system affecting more than one million people in the United States; and

WHEREAS, though the exact cause and progression of Parkinson's disease is still unknown, research suggests that it may be a combination of genetic and environmental factors; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors; slowness of movement and rigidity; difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking; cognitive impairment and dementia; mood disorders such as depression and anxiety; and other symptoms; and

WHEREAS, negative impressions by the public can limit the social interactions of people living with Parkinson's disease and can prevent them from living to their full potential; and

WHEREAS, in-person contact and socializing with other people living with Parkinson's can contribute to a better quality of life by helping to alleviate symptoms such as depression and anxiety; and

WHEREAS, is it important that research, awareness, and support continue for those affected by Parkinson's disease; and

WHEREAS, Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month is an opportunity to educate the public about this neurological disorder and provide support for people living with Parkinson's and their care partners;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terence R. McAuliffe, do hereby recognize April 2017 as **PARKINSON'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth