



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:

ADULT ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, more than 1.4 million Virginians are currently over the age of 65; and

WHEREAS, the population of older Virginians is expected to increase to more than 2.1 million by 2030; and

WHEREAS, during fiscal year 2015, Virginia Adult Protective Services received more than 22,000 reports of adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation; and

WHEREAS, older and disabled Virginians may be targets for abuse, which can occur in families and communities of all social, economic, racial and ethnic backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, there are a number of adult abuse prevention programs that provide vital services to older and disabled Virginians, including a 24-hour hotline at (888) 832-3858, crisis intervention, emergency shelter, home-based and community services, public education, and legal advocacy; and

WHEREAS, Adult Abuse Prevention Month offers all Virginians the opportunity to participate in community efforts to improve the safety and well-being of people throughout the Commonwealth, to recognize the organizations and individuals who serve them, and to remember victims of adult abuse and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, home to the State Adult Protective Services Division, promotes an integrated vision and streamlined services to help older and disabled Virginians live free of abuse, neglect, or exploitation; and

WHEREAS, Virginia is committed to providing communities of care and services for those in need;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terence R. McAuliffe, do hereby recognize May 2016 as **ADULT ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** 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.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Kely Thomas in black ink.

Secretary of the Commonwealth