

**Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, in the state of Vermont, there are no military bases for our military children and youth to form connections and therefore can be invisible to coaches, teachers, and the community; and

WHEREAS, military personnel are relocated frequently, and moving can result in both academic and social challenges for the children of military personnel; and

WHEREAS, regardless of their grade, military children entering a new school system must adjust to different and possibly incompatible curriculums, become acquainted with new surroundings, and form new friendships; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont National Guard has implemented and promotes the Vermont National Guard Child and Youth Program in accordance with instruction from the National Guard Bureau; and

WHEREAS, Vermont is one of the states that has ratified the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children to address the academic impacts of military children's frequent relocations, and

WHEREAS, Vermont National Guard Child and Youth Program, assists Vermont's military youth adjust to situations other children do not experience; and

WHEREAS, for 2015, the Vermont National Guard Child & Youth program reported 755 programming hours were provided with 24 day camp/overnight camp opportunities that reached 689 Army and Air National Guard children; and

WHEREAS, VTNG Child & Youth Program is a resource for the broader community, educating communities on the effect of parental deployments for our military children; and

WHEREAS, military parents whose children participate in VTNG Child and Youth programs have responded favorably to the program's impact on their children's lives; and

WHEREAS, local VTNG Army and Air Child and Youth and families, along with Vermont National Guard Family Program staff, are visiting the State House today, April 5, 2016 and

WHEREAS, nationally, April marks the nation's "Month of the Military Child," a time to honor those youth affected by military deployment;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor do proclaim April 2016 as

THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

in Vermont, and I do hereby urge all citizens, business and government leaders to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and activities that honor, support and thank military children.



Done under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 5th day of April, A.D. 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor