



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:

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS DAY

WHEREAS, Disabled American Veterans (DAV) was founded by World War I veterans on September 25, 1920, and was chartered by an Act of Congress on June 17, 1932; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, DAV celebrates 100 years of serving veterans of the Armed Forces, their families and survivors, and communities; and

WHEREAS, DAV is dedicated to a single purpose of empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity; and

WHEREAS, DAV ensures veterans and their families have access to the full range of benefits available to them, fights for the interests of America's injured heroes, and educates the public about the needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, DAV also provides free, professional assistance to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and other agencies; and

WHEREAS, DAV also provides outreach concerning its programs and services to the American people generally, and to disabled veterans and their families specifically; and

WHEREAS, DAV represents the interests of disabled veterans, their families, their widowed spouses and their orphans before the federal government, as well as state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, DAV has fought tirelessly for equal access to critical VA caregiver benefits and services for severely disabled veterans of all generations, resulting in legislation to expand eligibility to those injured prior to September 11, 2001, as part of the VA Mission Act; and

WHEREAS, DAV co-presents the National Disabled American Veterans Winter Sports Clinic and National Disabled American Veterans TEE Tournament; has organized the nationwide DAV Transportation Network to provide free transportation for veterans to VA medical appointments; operates an active Charitable Service Trust funding the needs of local providers assisting at-risk local veterans; has built an active volunteer corps offering thousands of hours of service to our veterans and communities; offers veterans, transitioning military members and spouses access to employers through its nationwide job fair program; provides emergency assistance to veterans in need through the DAV Disaster Relief Program; and operates the Jesse Brown Memorial Youth Scholarship program to contribute to the lives of young Americans; and

WHEREAS, DAV Department of Virginia and the 38 chapters across our Commonwealth demonstrate their commitment to ill and injured veterans of all generations and conflicts; and

WHEREAS, DAV Department of Virginia is a significant partner to the Virginia Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations, advising the Governor, Secretary of Veterans & Defense Affairs, and Virginia Department of Veterans Service on matters of concern to the veterans community and provides a conduit of information to and from the veterans service organizations on policy and legislation, pending and enacted, as well as information on existing services; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia is proud to honor the members of the Disabled American Veterans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ralph S. Northam, do hereby recognize September 25, 2020, as **DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS DAY** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth