



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:

EARTH SCIENCE WEEK

WHEREAS, geology, meteorology, oceanography, and astronomy are fundamental to a better understanding of life on earth; and

WHEREAS, earth sciences are important to the conservation and development of energy, mineral, agricultural, and aquatic resources needed for Virginia's future growth and for building a new Virginia economy; and

WHEREAS, earth sciences help provide a plan for natural disasters such as earthquakes, landslides, and shoreline erosion; and

WHEREAS, "Our Shared Ge heritage," the theme of Earth Science Week 2016, refers to the collection of natural wonders, landforms, and resources that have formed over eons and come to this generation to manage, use, and conserve effectively; and

WHEREAS, Earth Science Week promotes understanding and appreciation of the value of earth science research and its contributions to safer, healthier, and more sustainable life on earth; and

WHEREAS, Virginia is committed to encouraging students and families to learn more about the important role earth sciences play in our understanding of the world; and

WHEREAS, Earth Science Week is an opportunity to celebrate the earth sciences and to encourage environmental stewardship;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terence R. McAuliffe, do hereby recognize October 9-15, 2016, as **EARTH SCIENCE WEEK** 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 Kelly Thomas in black ink.

Secretary of the Commonwealth