



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK

WHEREAS, direct support professionals, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals (referred to in this Proclamation as "direct support professionals") are the primary providers of publicly-funded long term support and services for millions of individuals; and

WHEREAS, a direct support professional must build a close, trusted relationship with an individual with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, a direct support professional assists an individual with disabilities with the most intimate needs, on a daily basis; and

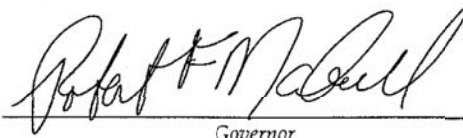
WHEREAS, a direct support professional provides essential support to help keep an individual with disabilities connected to the family and community of the individual; and

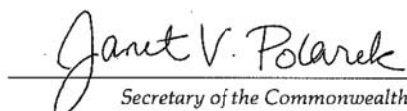
WHEREAS, direct support professionals enable individuals with disabilities to live meaningful, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals are the key to allowing an individual with disabilities to live successfully in the community of the individual, and to avoid more costly institutional care;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert F. McDonnell, do hereby proclaim the week of September 12-18, 2010 as **DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK** in the **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth