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:

GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH

WHEREAS, Virginians have outstanding opportunities to experience safe and healthy fun in the Commonwealth's great outdoors; and

WHEREAS, biking, swimming, hiking, climbing, paddling, fishing, hunting, boating, and many other activities help us enjoy the physical and mental health benefits of outdoor recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth is committed to conserving and protecting our air, water, wildlife, and land; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's great outdoors has an estimated economic impact of more than $19 billion, and supports nearly 200,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's 36 state parks, 22 national park units, and two national forests attract millions of visitors each year and reflect many facets of the Commonwealth's rich natural and cultural history; and

WHEREAS, many of the Commonwealth's most important cultural and historic events and traditions are preserved by Virginia's national, state, and local parks; and

WHEREAS, Great Outdoors Month is an opportunity to acknowledge the successful partnership of federal, state, and local agencies, the recreation and tourism industries, and recreationists, and to celebrate the many recreational opportunities available to citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terence R. McAuliffe, do hereby recognize June 2016 as **GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,** and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

Governor

Secretary of the Commonwealth