



## 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:*

### **VIRGINIA FARMERS' MARKET WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, the popularity of Virginia's farmers' markets has grown dramatically in recent years, from 88 markets in 2006 to nearly 250 in 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, farmers' markets play a vital role in giving farms direct access to consumers and consumers direct access to farmers; and

**WHEREAS**, farmers' markets provide the public with a convenient, fresh, competitively-priced source for high quality fruits, vegetables, eggs, honey, herbs, flowers, organic items, cheeses, baked goods, meats, homemade preserves and more; and

**WHEREAS**, farmers' markets reinforce and maintain community identity and help to foster new businesses and encourage and support the growth of new entrepreneurs; and

**WHEREAS**, the economic impacts of Farmers' Markets include direct benefits to farmers and business owners, but also indirect benefits to the community in stimulating downtown revitalization, enhancing parks and waterfronts and preserving farmland through economic viability; and

**WHEREAS**, farmers' markets are good for the economy, good for consumers' health and good for the community;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Terence R. McAuliffe, do hereby recognize August 2-8, 2015, as **VIRGINIA FARMERS' MARKET 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 J. Morgan Kousser in black ink.

Secretary of the Commonwealth