



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 PUMPKIN MONTH

WHEREAS, pumpkins are a nutritious source of beta-carotene, potassium, and vitamin C; and

WHEREAS, Virginia has approximately 3,000 acres of wholesale pumpkins valued at more than \$6 million, with pick-your-own pumpkin farms across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, an increasing number of Virginia farmers have effectively utilized the state's favorable environment for growing pumpkins, taking advantage of higher elevations and cooler temperatures to produce a high-value crop that consumers enjoy; and

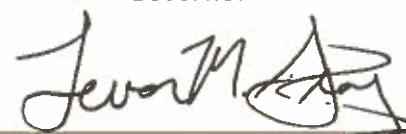
WHEREAS, the marketing of pumpkins, related fall crops, and other merchandise through festivals, activities, direct sales, and buyer contacts, along with the expanded production of pumpkins, enhance the economic opportunities of many Virginia agricultural producers, and support the agriculture industry overall;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terence R. McAuliffe, do hereby recognize October 2015 as **VIRGINIA PUMPKIN MONTH** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.





Governor



Secretary of the Commonwealth