



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, since 1986, military installations around the world recognize the sacrifices and applaud the courage of military families celebrating the Month of the Military Child throughout the month of April; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to recognize that military families make significant contributions to the country while dealing with uncertainty and concern for their loved ones during extended hours and deployments; and

WHEREAS, approximately 40,000 children of all service members deployed attend Florida public schools; and

WHEREAS, Florida is home to dozens of Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) units housed in public schools throughout the state. These units are led by retired Navy, Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard officers and enlisted personnel and focus on academic excellence, character development, and public service; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Purple Star Schools of Distinction designation was established in 2021 to recognize schools that support the unique needs of military families, help military children navigate challenges, and provide resources to aid military children and their families as they move to a new school environment; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Collegiate Purple Star Campus Program was established in 2023 to recognize colleges that demonstrate a commitment to supporting military families; and

WHEREAS, the Month of the Military Child in Florida reminds the Nation that the service member's children also sacrifice, and gives communities an opportunity to share their gratitude for the sacrifice of military children; and

WHEREAS, The Florida Military Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) is committed to supporting military children and families by enabling seamless school placement, enrollment, records transfers, and verification of graduation requirements; and

WHEREAS, under Governor Ron DeSantis' leadership, Florida is recognized as the most military-friendly state in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Month of the Military Child will allow our military friendly state and its many friends across the United States to pay tribute to military children and youth for their support of our troops – because when parents serve in the military, their kids are heroes too.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing April 2024 as the *Month of the Military Child in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 1st day of April, in the year two thousand twenty-four.



Governor