



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:

ZACHARY TAYLOR APPRECIATION DAY

WHEREAS, Zachary Taylor was born at "Hare Forest" in Orange County, Virginia on November 24, 1783, a fifth generation of the Taylor family in our Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Zachary Taylor was a valiant soldier best known for nearly 40 years of service to his country, enlisting first in the War of 1812 under the command of his cousin, President James Madison, Jr., as an aide to General Andrew Jackson and thereafter, under Presidents James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, Martin Van Buren, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, and James Polk; and

WHEREAS, during those years of service, Zachary Taylor became known as a brilliant, steadfast, and compassionate commander who fought many successful battles, where he earned the affectionate nickname "Old Rough and Ready" from his men, and was propelled into greater national prominence in the war with Mexico, during which he became an instant legend and hero on the battlefield of Buena Vista; and

WHEREAS, though he had not sought the office, Zachary Taylor's national prominence and personal popularity led to Taylor's victory over party candidates Henry Clay, Winfield Scott and Daniel Webster for the Whig Party Presidential nomination and to be elected as the 12th President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, on July 4, 1850, only sixteen months into his term as President of the United States, and after laying the corner stone of the Washington Monument, Zachary Taylor suddenly grew ill and passed away, and with 100,000 spectators reportedly attending his funeral in Washington, Abraham Lincoln delivered his eulogy; and

WHEREAS, November 24, 2011 marks the anniversary of the birth of Zachary Taylor, it is fitting and proper for our Commonwealth to officially recognize and honor our native son and 12th President of the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert F. McDonnell do hereby recognize November 24, 2011 as **ZACHARY TAYLOR APPRECIATION DAY** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth