



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:

PATIENT ADVOCATE DAY

WHEREAS, access to healthcare is a basic human need and a shared societal responsibility; and

WHEREAS, many patients suffer from a lack of access to medical treatment while others struggle to deal with the financial hardships of illness; and

WHEREAS, the experience of a serious diagnosis must open the patient's door to relevant clinical information and empowerment within the medical care system that helps provide appropriate support while removing barriers to quality care and patient empowerment; and

WHEREAS, it is important that the Commonwealth of Virginia remain focused on ensuring access to healthcare for those in need as this problem is an urgent one that requires immediate solutions; and

WHEREAS, through continuous, comprehensive, cooperative, and collaborative action on the part of the Commonwealth, private industry, healthcare providers, and citizens we will be able to surmount this challenge; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia is dedicated to promoting effective, sound, and fair healthcare for all its citizens, and I encourage all Virginians to support efforts to further the advocacy of patients now while preparing for future situations when healthcare challenges are likely to be greater;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Timothy M. Kaine, do hereby recognize June 26, 2006 as **PATIENT ADVOCATE DAY** in the **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.



Handwritten signature of Timothy M. Kaine in black ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Katherine F. Hanley in black ink.

Secretary of the Commonwealth