



Spencer J. Cox

Governor

Declaration

Whereas, April is the Month of the Military Child, a special month to recognize and pay tribute to military families and their children for the daily sacrifices made, and for their commitment, courage, and unconditional support of our Armed Forces;

Whereas, the state of Utah is proud to be home to more than 13,000 children whose parents serve in the military and are stationed in Utah;

Whereas, Utah is an active participant in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, which facilitates successful transitions for military children who face relocation between states;

Whereas, the children of our service members continue to make significant contributions to schools, communities, the nation, and our State, despite prolonged and repeated absences of one or both parents;

Whereas, the average military student faces transition challenges more than twice during high school and most military children will attend six to nine different school systems throughout their lives from kindergarten to 12th grade;

Whereas, in partnership with the Utah State Board of Education, Utah's public schools remain committed to the care and education of the children of the men and women of our armed forces;

Whereas, the Utah State Board of Education and the State Council on Military Children launched the Purple Star Schools program to recognize Utah schools for their excellence in supporting military connected children and their families;

Whereas, by partnering with school liaison officers, military leaders, educators, and community organizations, the Utah State Board of Education, Utah Department of Workforce Services, and Utah Department of Veterans and Military affairs provide the unique support needed for military service members and their families during all stages of transition and deployment;

Whereas, in 1986 U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger first designated the month of April as the Month of the Military Child in acknowledgement of the significant role of military youth in our communities; and,

Whereas, by honoring the Month of the Military Child and wearing purple in support of military students, Utah reaffirms its commitment to ensuring excellence in schools, childcare, and youth services to military children who face unique challenges that other children their age may never experience;

Now, Therefore, I, Spencer J. Cox, governor of the great state of Utah, do hereby declare April 2021, as

Month of the Military Child in Utah

Spencer J. Cox
Governor