

# MEDIA RELEASE

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# MIC3 CELEBRATES APRIL AS THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

LEXINGTON, Ky. - The Military Interstate Children’s Compact Commission (MIC3) will **“Purple Up! For Military Kids”** on April 20, 2022. A survey released from the Military Child Education Coalition reports that there are an estimated 1.65 million military-connected children enrolled in schools in the United States and abroad.

Former U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger first designated April as the Month of the Military Child, acknowledging the significant role military-connected students play in our communities. In 2011, the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension Military Youth and Family Program started the **“Purple Up! for Military Kids”** as a way for communities to thank military children for their strength and sacrifice. On a specific day designated during the Month of the Military Child, communities throughout each state join together and wear the color purple to honor our military children. Purple represents the joint service operations and is a combination of Army green, Marine Corps red, and Coast Guard, Air Force, and Navy blue; it is the appropriate color to represent military children from all branches.

“During the month of April, we honor our military children,” said Laura Anastasio MIC3 Chairman and Connecticut Compact Commissioner. “We acknowledge that they must adapt and overcome the hardships of transitioning due to the multiple moves they must make while serving alongside their families. This month is our opportunity to celebrate their strength, courage, and resiliency as well as to show our deep appreciation for their sacrifices.”

Developed by the Council of State Governments’ *National Center for Interstate Compacts*, the U.S. Department of Defense, national associations, federal and state officials, state departments of education, school administrators and military families, the MIC3 is a quasi-governmental entity operating under the *Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children*. With 50-member states and the District of Columbia, the Compact ensures the uniform treatment of military-connected children transferring between states who enroll in public and U.S. Department of Defense schools.

For more information, visit [www.mic3.net.](http://www.mic3.net/)

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