

State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, each April, New Yorkers join other states to recognize America's military children during the Month of the Military Child—a nationwide observance that highlights the important place children have in our country and in support of its armed forces, and within each of our own hearts; and

Whereas, all active service members make tremendous sacrifices, and we understand that they accept the challenges and demands of military duty and make choices that impact their entire families—especially many children who endure months and even years of separation from a parent serving tours of duty; and

Whereas, these children are impacted at all stages of their lives, as military families undergo frequent moves and deployment-related transitions that can be especially difficult and stressful for youth of all stages—from making new friends and adjusting to life on a military base, to experiencing concerns for their parents' safety; and

Whereas, when younger children reach milestones in their growth and development, one or both parents may have missed these memorable events, such as seeing a toddler's first steps, hearing their first words, reading a child a bedtime story, helping them with their homework, or attending school and sporting events; and

Whereas, older youth in their formative teen years also are affected by military life and the absence of one or both parents on active duty means missing their guidance in making decisions; as they approach adulthood, they often must take on added responsibilities and experience rites of passage such as learning to drive, voting, getting their first job, and other aspects of growing up without celebrating them with their parents; and

Whereas, New York State is a member of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, ensuring in law and in practice that the moves and transfers often required of military service never pose a barrier to the educational success of any military children attending school within our state; and

Whereas, throughout America's history, our armed forces have honorably defended freedom and democracy, and New Yorkers take this opportunity to thank those currently serving in our nation's military who—along with their families—make daily sacrifices for our country, and we especially remember their children and reaffirm our support for them;

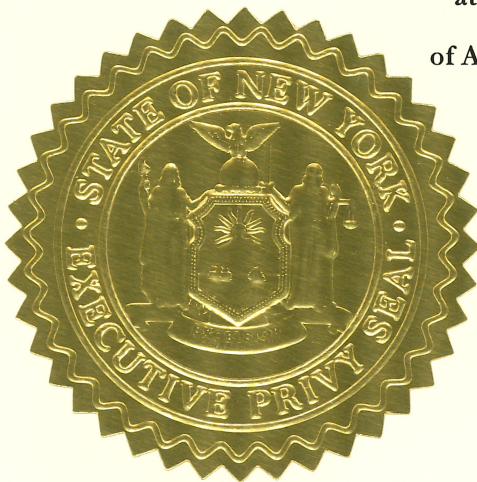
Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim April 2026, as

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

in the Empire State.

G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this second day
of April in the year two thousand twenty-six.

Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh



Governor