



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution of Virginia in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

VIRGINIA WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY

WHEREAS, Virginia workers are the backbone of our robust economy; and

WHEREAS, every worker fatality is a devastating tragedy and an unmitigated loss; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry investigated fifty-six work-related fatalities last year alone; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic presented a tremendous challenge in keeping Virginia workers safe and contributed to over half of the 2020 workplace fatalities; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the personal stresses caused by the pandemic, workers are forced to face new anxieties about the safety of their workplace; and

WHEREAS, responsible businesses have to navigate the devastating financial impacts of a worker fatality including workers' compensation, production downtime, investigation, training, and legal fees; and

WHEREAS, families are often emotionally and financially devastated by the loss; and

WHEREAS, every Virginian has the right to return home safely at the end of each day; and

WHEREAS, together, we can increase workplace safety and build a better future for Virginia's workers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ralph S. Northam, do hereby recognize April 28, 2021, as **VIRGINIA WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth