



# 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:*

## **LYME DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, the health and well-being of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia is of the utmost importance; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Lyme disease is a rapidly emerging infectious disease not limited to age, ethnicity or geographical area; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 933 new cases of Lyme disease were reported in Virginia in 2008 and over 34,000 cases in the United States, while numerous cases go unreported or detected each year; and

**WHEREAS**, Lyme disease is usually transmitted by the bite of an infected black-legged tick and is caused by a type of bacteria that gives early symptoms, such as a bulls-eye rash, fever, aching muscles, headache and fatigue; and

**WHEREAS**, checking for ticks and proper tick removal are imperative, and if done correctly and promptly can aid in the prevention of the disease; and

**WHEREAS**, each May an educational campaign is launched to heighten awareness about Lyme disease and the Commonwealth of Virginia and many Virginia counties have provided residents with information about personal protection, tick control methods and tick identification services to protect people from the disease;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Robert F. McDonnell, do hereby recognize May 2010 as **LYME DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.



  
Governor

  
Secretary of the Commonwealth