

A PROCLAMATION

DECLARING NOVEMBER 21-27, 2004, "OPERATION: MILITARY KIDS WEEK" IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

WHEREAS, the war in Iraq and the global War on Terrorism have changed the face of military service for those in the National Guard and the Reserves; and

WHEREAS, mobilization and deployment of these soldiers and airmen are at an all time high, and these soldiers and airmen are being called to active duty quicker and kept away from home longer than ever more; and

WHEREAS, this situation presents unique challenges to the dependent youth of these service members; and

WHEREAS, Operation: Military Kids is a nationwide initiative designed to provide support to the children and youth of families that are impacted by the global War on Terrorism; and

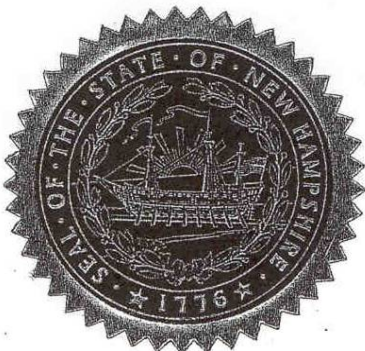
WHEREAS, the State of New Hampshire recognizes the importance of supporting military families through a variety of community outreach agencies, educational institutions, and military support centers; and

WHEREAS, over 1500 New Hampshire families are military families supporting the defense of our country at home and abroad; and


WHEREAS, the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, NH Department of Education, and the NH National Guard have established in NH a new initiative called Operation: Military Kids; and

WHEREAS, Operation: Military Kids and Military Family Week are efforts to acknowledge the sacrifices and risks New Hampshire families are making for the defense of the United States of America;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CRAIG BENSON, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **NOVEMBER 21-27, 2004** as **OPERATION: MILITARY KIDS WEEK** and urge all citizens to demonstrate support for the children and youth of our deployed NH servicemen and women, and to reach out to these youth and their families by offering assistance and support through the efforts of the NH Operation: Military Child initiative.



Given at the Executive Chamber in Concord, this twenty-ninth day of October, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and four, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and twenty-nine.



Craig R. Benson
Governor of New Hampshire