

# Governor Northam Declares May as Business Appreciation Month

*~ Governor, administration officials will participate in events across the Commonwealth to highlight Virginia's diverse business community ~*

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

## **BUSINESS APPRECIATION MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, Virginia businesses play essential roles in strengthening our Commonwealth through their innovation, creation, and expansion; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia businesses are the foundation of sustainable communities across the Commonwealth; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia businesses provide more than 3.1 million jobs to our residents throughout the Commonwealth and offer a variety of products and services to customers around the globe; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia's businesses operate in diverse sectors including cybersecurity, defense, advanced manufacturing, energy, life sciences, tourism, agribusiness, and information technology; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia is currently home to more than 37 Fortune 1,000 firms and 67 firms with annual revenues of \$500 million or more; and

**WHEREAS**, more than ninety-seven percent of Virginia companies are small businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth recognizes the accomplishments of Virginia's entrepreneurs, small and medium size businesses, and major employers that contribute greatly to building and sustaining a new Virginia economy;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ralph S. Northam, do hereby recognize May 2019 as **BUSINESS APPRECIATION MONTH** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.