As Americans, we owe a tremendous debt to those who serve to protect and promote our freedom. Through their bravery and steadfastness, the members of the U.S. armed forces demonstrate their commitment to the United States and our values.

But it is important to remember that the men and women in uniform are not alone in making sacrifices. The cause of freedom also makes great demands upon the husbands and wives, the parents and grandparents, and, especially, the children of our military personnel. In the case of the children, this sacrifice is especially poignant: From always being the new kid in school to the strain of being separated from a deployed parent, military children often live with uncertainty and fear.

Many children have a parent serving on active or reserve military duty. Each April, we make a special effort to applaud military families and to pay tribute to the bright and resilient nature of military children.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to recognize the outstanding courage and strength of military children and their families. They demonstrate the patriotism that keeps Texas and America strong.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim April 2018 to be

**Month of the Military Child**

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 16th day of March, 2018.

[Signature]
Governor of Texas