



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York's future depends on the accomplishments of our children and, by providing them with a firm foundation based on quality early childhood education, we equip them with the tools they need to be successful and also demonstrate New York State's commitment to making sure our early childhood education programs are among the best in the nation; and

Whereas, it is estimated that nearly 11 million children under age five are cared for by 2.8 million child care providers in the United States; in New York State 690,707 children are cared for by 21,416 regulated providers with an additional 86,168 children cared for by 46,965 legally-exempt providers upon whom parents depend to provide safe, nurturing and educational environments for their children; and

Whereas, research in human development and neuroscience indicates that ninety percent of brain development occurs during the first five years of life, making it crucial that children be provided high quality learning experiences in the early years so they can grow up to become healthy, productive, contributing members of society; and

Whereas, the second Sunday in May has long been recognized as the day to honor mothers and their commitment to children, now, too, the Friday before Mother's Day is known as Provider Appreciation Day, a special day to recognize family-based child care providers, teachers, school-age program staff, child care center directors and staff, and all those who work with children and are responsible for their education and care; and

Whereas, by recognizing the dedication of child care providers, we reinforce our belief in the importance of quality child care and let providers throughout our state know that we recognize and value their important work, and reaffirm our state's efforts in making quality early learning available and accessible for all families;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 10, 2013 as

PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

in the Empire State.



G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this thirtieth
day of April in the year two thousand thirteen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor