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(South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs)

National Military Appreciation Month

PIERRE, S.D. – At the encouragement of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs and the South Dakota Department of the Military, Gov. Dennis Daugaard has proclaimed May as “National Military Appreciation Month,” a time for all to honor, remember, recognize and appreciate those who have served in the past, those now serving, as well as their families.

“The vigilance of the members of the Armed Forces has been instrumental to the preservation of freedom, security and prosperity enjoyed by the people of this great nation,” the Governor’s proclamation states. “The success of the Armed Forces depends on the dedicated service of its members and their families.”

National Military Appreciation Month includes: Loyalty Day on May 1, Victory in Europe Day on May 8, Military Spouse Appreciation Day on May 11, Armed Forces Day on May 19 and Memorial Day on May 28.

"Every American citizen is indebted to the women and men who have served this nation in uniform; earning and preserving the rights we take for granted every day," said Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, Adjutant General of the South Dakota National Guard. "We also owe a debt of gratitude to our military family members, without whom that service would be impossible."

The days provide an opportunity to honor, remember, recognize, and appreciate those who serve and have served. These men and women continue to play a major role in the development of our country; documented through a history of uncompromising honor, dedication to duty and genuine love of country.

“Life is all about timing,” said Larry Zimmerman, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs. “The month of May is our time to recognize our military, veterans and their families. They are serving, have served, or stood beside those service members everyday of their career. Let’s remember these heroes every day for what they do, as service to this great country is a part of their daily lives.”