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SUBJ/MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD//

RMKS/1. Since 1986, April has been designated the Month of the Military Child, a special time to honor the 1.6 million children who sacrifice alongside their Sailor and Marine parents. These resilient children face frequent moves, long separations, and the anxieties of deployments, yet consistently demonstrate strength, courage, and adaptability. Let us recognize and celebrate their extraordinary service to our nation.

2. While military members serve around the world, we often forget the challenges faced by their children. Navy and Marine Corps families move on average every two to three years, impacting military children through changing schools and support networks. This month, let us go beyond words to show our appreciation and support for the remarkable children at every opportunity. We realize that the strength of our military comes from the families that stand behind them.

3. Each year, the Department of the Navy joins national, state and local government, schools, military serving organizations, companies and private citizens celebrating military children and the sacrifices they make. Throughout the month, I encourage commands to plan special events to honor our military children. These efforts and special events reinforce the importance of our military children while helping them succeed in the military lifestyle.

4. To the parents and guardians, you are the bedrock of strength for these incredible children. Your love and guidance empower them to navigate the unique demands of military life. Let us ensure they know how deeply valued and cherished they truly are.

5. Please share my sincerest gratitude with the military children in your lives.

6. Released by the Honorable John C. Phelan, Secretary of the Navy. //

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