

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

LEARN AND SERVE CHALLENGE WEEK OCTOBER 6-12, 2008

- WHEREAS,** *Maryland's youth make important contributions to the state's welfare everyday of the year and Maryland depends on youth as vital community assets; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Service-learning, an effective teaching method that combines service to the community with curriculum-based learning, is a hands-on approach to mastering subject material while fostering civic responsibility; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Research has shown that service-learning has an enduring positive impact on students' academic achievement, personal and social development, and civic engagement, particularly among students from disadvantaged backgrounds, and that the historically high level of volunteering demonstrated by America's youth has been attributed in part to the growth of service-learning in our nation's schools; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Young people will benefit greatly from expanded opportunities to engage in meaningful service-learning. Young people should be viewed as the hope not only of the future, but also of today, and should be valued for the idealism, energy, creativity, and commitment they bring to the challenges in their communities; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Through service-learning, young people build character and learn valuable skills, including teamwork, time management, needs-assessment, and leadership, that are sought by employers.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 6-12, 2008 as LEARN AND SERVICE CHALLENGE WEEK in Maryland, and do commend everyone who contributes to the civic and academic engagement of Maryland's young people.

*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 6th day of October
Two Thousand and eight*



Martin O'Malley
Governor

Michael B. Brown
Lt. Governor

Joe C. McPherson
Secretary of State