

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**MARYLAND HOMEGROWN SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK
OCTOBER 4 -8, 2021**

- WHEREAS,** *Many of our children live in a world where things are readily available and often believe that fruits, vegetables and other food products come from a shelf in the supermarket rather than a farm; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Agriculture is a leading industry in Maryland with great opportunity for expanding sales of healthy, wholesome, farm-raised and locally-made products for school lunches; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Childhood obesity is a growing concern throughout the United States and Maryland and local, wholesome fruits, vegetables, meat and dairy are excellent sources of nutrients and can contribute to an overall healthier diet; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Our children are our future consumers and decision makers, and when they understand the importance of farming and healthy food today, they can make decisions tomorrow that are the most advantageous for the farming community, our environment, the economy and public health for the future; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Jane Lawton Farm-to-School Bill and the homegrown School Lunch Week, provide a nexus for these issues and their solutions.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 4 - 8, 2021 as MARYLAND HOMEGROWN SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 4th day of October
Two Thousand and twenty-one

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Byrd H. Lathrop
Lt. Governor

John C. Winkler
Secretary of State