WHEREAS, The purchasing and materials management profession has a significant role in the quality, efficiency and profitability of business and government throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Procurement Professionals in the purchasing and materials management field are employed in the private and public sector in profit and non-profit organizations; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the purchasing of goods and services, the purchasing and materials management professionals engage in, or have direct responsibility for, functions such as executing, implementing and administering contracts, developing forecasts and procurement strategies, supervising and or monitoring the flow and storage of materials, and developing working relationships with suppliers and other departments within organizations; and

WHEREAS, Purchasing professionals make important contributions to assure the efficient use of taxpayer dollars by proving efficient service while maintaining the highest standards; and

WHEREAS, Local, state and federal purchasing professionals are responsible for managing and monitoring billions of dollars worth of goods and services every year which directly influences national and international economies; and

WHEREAS The Maryland Public Purchasing Association of the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, the Institute for Public Procurement, and other associations around the globe are sponsoring activities and special events to further educate and inform the general public regarding the role of procurement.

WHEREAS, March is the time to celebrate with pride the role of the public procurement profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, J. LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim MARCH 2018 as PURCHASING MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.

Given at the City of Annapolis, in the State of Maryland, at the 25th day of March, in the year of Our Lord and eighteen hundred and eighteen

[Signature]
Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State