



Office of the Governor
State of Missouri

Proclamation

WHEREAS, more than 28 million children in the United States have parents who work outside the home, and 14.3 million children have no afterschool care; and

WHEREAS, Missouri continues to lead the way by supporting working families in ensuring that their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends through afterschool programs; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs provide safe, challenging, engaging and fun learning experiences to help children and youth develop their social, emotional, physical, cultural and academic skills; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of our young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among children, youth, families and adults; and

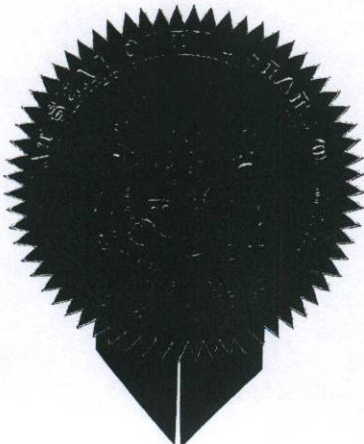
WHEREAS, the Missouri AfterSchool Network has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults.

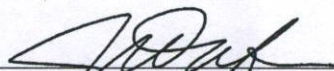
WHEREAS, *Lights On Afterschool*, a national celebration of afterschool programs, promotes the critical importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, their families and their communities.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim October 22, 2009, to be

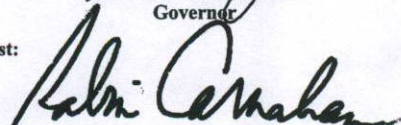
LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY IN MISSOURI

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 24th day of September, 2009.




Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor

Attest:


Secretary of State