WHEREAS, thousands of brave Americans have demonstrated their courage and commitment to freedom by serving the Armed Forces of the United States of America in active duty posts in Afghanistan, Iraq and around the world; and

WHEREAS, More than 21,000 of Indiana’s children and youth have been directly affected by the military deployment of at least one parent; and

WHEREAS, these children and youth are a source of pride and honor to us all and it is only fitting that we take time to recognize their contributions, celebrate their spirit and let our men and women in uniform know that while they are taking care of us we are taking care of their children and youth; and

WHEREAS, the recognition of Month of the Military Child will allow us to pay tribute to military children and youth for their commitment, their struggles and their unconditional support of our troops because when parents serve in the military their kids are heroes too; and

WHEREAS, a month-long salute to military children and youth will encourage the local community to provide direct support to military children and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. Andrew Cook, Mayor of the City of Westfield, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2013, as Month of the Military Child and I do hereby urge all citizens, business and government leaders to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and activities that honor, support and thank military children.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, J. Andrew Cook, have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the City of Westfield, Indiana, on this 8th day of April, 2013.