



PRESS RELEASE
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The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) Commemorates 9/11

Mark D. Needham, MIC3 Chairman, and the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission recognize and commemorate the 10th anniversary of September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.. The following is from an open letter from Mr. Needham:

It is hard to believe that the 10th anniversary of the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and Flight 93 has arrived. That day and those who perished as victims and heroes live on in our memories as if it just happened yesterday. Our hearts remain with all of those who suffered such enduring losses.

This event catapulted a new generation into roles they could not have been foreseen just a few months earlier. Men and women took on new roles in service to their country and in defense of liberty. In the past ten years, many more have enlisted bringing with them new families and a promise of a better tomorrow free from fear.

The children of these military families are our nation's children. Care of military children sustains our fighting force and strengthens the health, security and safety of our nation's families and communities. It is important to emphasize and recognize the role that military children play while a parent or important adult is serving. The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission remains committed to resolving the educational transitional issues that are faced by these children and their families.

Military families move between postings on a regular basis, and while reassignments can often be a boon for career personnel, they can be difficult for the children of military families. The average military student faces transition challenges more than twice during high school and most military children will attend six to nine different school systems in their lives from kindergarten to 12th grade. The Compact therefore seeks to make transition easier for the children of military families so that they are afforded the same opportunities for educational success as other children and are not penalized or delayed in achieving their educational goals.

As part of the Compact, the Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunities for Military Children was established (also referred to as the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission or MIC3). Thirty-nine states have adopted the Compact and placed it in statute. The Department of Defense continues to work with the Commission, Council of State Governments, national organizations, and state leaders to bring the remaining states on board. Member states are forming their State Councils and inform school districts of the terms of the Compact.

Please take time to remember all those we lost and those who sacrifice in service to our country and freedom from fear. Recognize the service of our military servicemen and women, their families and their children.

For a copy of Mr. Needham's letter or for more information on the Interstate Compact or the Commission, please visit the MIC3 website at www.mic3.net.

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