WHEREAS, Maryland is a partner in the American College Application Campaign, a national effort designed to increase the number of students who apply to and enroll in college with a particular focus on first-generation and low-income students; and

WHEREAS, Priority is given to removing barriers to the college application process for all students who wish to pursue postsecondary education but lack information or support; and

WHEREAS, The term “postsecondary education” means opportunities within two- and four-year colleges and universities, certificate and trade school programs, military institutions and registered apprenticeships; and

WHEREAS, Preparation for Maryland students to be college and career ready demands the ever-increasing cooperative efforts of educators, school counselors, postsecondary faculty and advisors, workforce development professionals and business and industry representatives to prepare youth for success in postsecondary education and degree attainment in career fields that are forecasted to experience the largest and fastest growth in the next decade; and

WHEREAS, Maryland is working to increase the percentage of the state’s working population, aged 25-64, that has at least an associate’s degree from 44.5% to 60% by the year 2025 to prepare students for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, Obtaining a postsecondary degree has been linked to higher income and employment in the global economy, thus, improving the quality of life and giving all students leadership opportunities in their fields and in their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 31, 2019 as MARYLAND COLLEGE APPLICATION CAMPAIGN WEEK in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens and encourage all high school seniors to take advantage of the assistance provided through this initiative.