

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Resolution*

**OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS AND VETERANS DAY 2024**

- WHEREAS,** the residents of Durham County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all of the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and
- WHEREAS,** the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham County seeks to honor these individuals who have paid the high price for freedom by placing themselves in harm’s way for the good of all; and
- WHEREAS,** Veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veteran Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and
- WHEREAS,** Approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and
- WHEREAS,** an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and
- WHEREAS,** studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and
- WHEREAS,** Active Military Service Members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Association of Counties and the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers encourage all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and
- WHEREAS,** the Durham County appreciates the sacrifices of our United State Military Personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted; therefore be it

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, the Durham Board of County Commissioners hereby declares November 2024 as a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform transitioning from Active Service; therefore, be it further

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** the Durham Board of County Commissioners also declares November 11, 2024, as Veterans Day in Durham County, a day to recognize the patriots across our great nation and the county’s approximately 15,000 veterans; finally, be it

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that in observance of Operation Green Light and Veterans Day, the Durham Board of County Commissioners encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying a green light in a window of their place of business or residence throughout November.

This the 28<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024.

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Nida Allam, Chair

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Nimasheena Burns, Vice-Chair

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Heidi Carter, Commissioner

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Brenda Howerton, Commissioner

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Wendy Jacobs, Commissioner

