

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Resolution*

**SUPPORTING OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS 2023**

- WHEREAS,** Durham County residents have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all of the men and women who have served our nation and this community in the Armed Forces; and
- WHEREAS,** the contributions of men and women who served in all branches of the military have been critical in holding on to the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by all; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham County now honors and recognizes 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,** Operation Green Light provides educational opportunities for governments, businesses, organizations, and individuals to learn more about military culture, suicide prevention, and things veterans want us to know about their service and their transition from military to civilian culture; and
- WHEREAS,** Active Military Service Members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year following military service; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Association of Counties encourages all the nation’s counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham County is grateful for the contributions of our United States Military Personnel and believes this specific recognition should be granted.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that I, Brenda Howerton, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, and on behalf of the Durham County Board of Commissioners do hereby declare November 6 -12, 2023, as a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform transitioning from Active Service.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** in observance of Operation Green Light 2023, Durham County encourages its citizens to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in windows of businesses, residences and other organizations during this week. By shining a green light, we let our veterans know that they are seen, appreciated, and supported.

This the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2023.

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Brenda Howerton, Chair

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Wendy Jacobs, Vice-Chair

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Nida Allam, Commissioner

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Nimasheena Burns, Commissioner

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Heidi Carter, Commissioner

