

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Resolution

SUPPORTING OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS

- WHEREAS,** Durham County residents have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all of the men and women who have selflessly served our nation and this community in the Armed Forces; and
- WHEREAS,** the sacrifices and contributions 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 community; 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 reveal 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 following military service; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Association of Counties (NACo) encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans.
- WHEREAS,** Durham County appreciates the sacrifices of our United State Military Personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Durham Board of County Commissioners hereby declare from October through Veterans Day, November 11th, 2022, 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, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Durham County 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.

This the 12th day of September 2022.

Brenda A. Howerton, Chair

Wendy Jacobs, Vice-Chair

Nida Allam, Commissioner

Nimasheena Burns, Commissioner

Heidi Carter, Commissioner

