

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS IN FORSYTH COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS the residents of Forsyth 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;

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;

WHEREAS Forsyth 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;

WHEREAS veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by serving in the Department of Veterans Affairs and 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;

WHEREAS approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian life annually;

WHEREAS an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future;

WHEREAS studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life;

WHEREAS Active Military Service Members transitioning from military service are at high risk for suicide during their first year after military service;

WHEREAS the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes, and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS Forsyth County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners hereby supports Operation Green Light by lighting certain County buildings green during the period from November 6 through November 12, 2023, the week of Veterans Day, a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform transitioning from Active Service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in observance of Operation Green Light, Forsyth 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 during the week of Veteran's Day, November 6 through November 12.

Adopted the 2nd day of November 2023.