

## RESOLUTION

## **Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans**

WHEREAS, the residents of Scotland 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 that served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Scotland County seeks to honor these individuals who have made countless sacrifices by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 700,000 veterans in the State of North Carolina, with over 2,000 of them being in Scotland County; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as Veterans Service Officers to help fellow veterans access more than \$52 billon 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 the 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, Scotland County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** with designation as a Green Light for Veterans, Scotland County hereby declares from October 2nd through November 12, 2023 a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of our men and women in uniform transitioning from active service;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Scotland County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence from November 6, 2023 through November 12, 2023.

Adopted this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2023

Tim Ivey, Chairman

J. Jason Robinson, Clerk to the Board