

COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND

NORTH CAROLINA

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, Cumberland County, home to Fort Liberty, the largest military installation in the world in Fort Liberty, has the third largest veteran population in the State behind only Wake and Mecklenburg counties at approximately 52,370 in FY 2022; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Cumberland County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all of the men and women who have selflessly served our nation and our community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Cumberland County seeks to honor these individuals who have made countless sacrifices 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 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



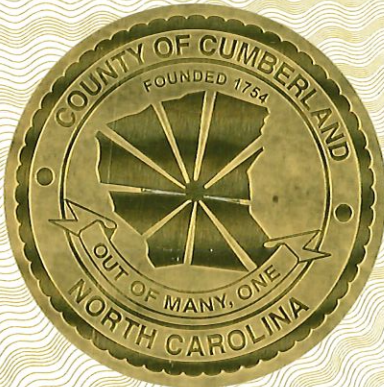
*WHEREAS*, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes, and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

*WHEREAS*, the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners appreciates the sacrifices of our United States Military Personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted.

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners hereby declares from November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 through Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform transitioning from Active Service; and

*THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Cumberland 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<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

*Adopted the 6th day of November 2023.*



*Dr. Toni Stewart*

*Dr. Toni Stewart, Chairwoman  
Cumberland County Board of Commissioners*