

## 2024 RES-192

### RECOGNIZING VETERANS DAY 2024

**WHEREAS**, Veterans Day (originally recognized as Armistice Day in 1918) was established in 1954 by the federal government as a legal holiday to be celebrated on November 11<sup>th</sup> to express respect and gratitude for veterans of all wars for their patriotism, commitment to country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, there are over 350,000 veterans in the State of Wisconsin, and an estimated 23,000 veterans in Dane County; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 200,000 service members currently transition to civilian communities annually with a projected 20% increase in service members who will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

**WHEREAS**, studies indicate that 44-72% of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life, including a high risk for suicide during the first year transitioning to civilian life after military service; and

**WHEREAS**, veterans continue to serve the community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veterans 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**, Dane County appreciates the staff of the Dane County Veterans Service Office and their commitment to advocate with expertise and compassion for veterans and their families to obtain local, state, and federal veterans' benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, the Dane County Board of Supervisors is grateful for the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and, in March 2024, the Dane County Board and Dane County further recognized veterans and their service to our nation, state, and county by passing 2023 OA-073, which established Veterans Day on November 11 each year as an official Dane County Holiday for all Dane County employees and encouraged employees to use the holiday to recognize, support, and learn more about veterans in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans, a NACo initiative to show appreciation and support for veterans and raise awareness of veterans' issues by illuminating buildings with a green light from November 4-11, 2024.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes Veterans Day 2024 and expresses its utmost respect, admiration, and gratitude for the veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces living in Dane County and elsewhere who have selflessly served our country and this community.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors supports Operation Green Light for Veterans and also encourages other local governments and residents to observe Operation Green Light from November 4th through November 11<sup>th</sup> to honor veterans in our communities.

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Patrick Miles, Chair  
Dane County Board of Supervisors

Signed and sealed before me this  
\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

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Scott McDonell,  
Dane County Clerk