1 2023 RES-350

2

3 CELEBRATING VETERANS DAY AS AN OFFICIAL COUNTY HOLIDAY

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5 Veterans Day is celebrated every year on November 11 as a day to pay respect and gratitude to
6 Veterans of all wars for their patriotism, commitment to country and willingness to serve and
7 sacrifice.

8

9 Originally recognized as Armistice Day in 1918, and later changed to Veterans Day in 1954, Act
10 52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a, was approved on May 13, 1938, making the 11th of
11 November in each year a legal holiday[1].

12

13 According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, there are 350,042 Veterans in the State
14 of Wisconsin, and an estimated 23,000 in Dane County[2]. The Department of Veteran Affairs
15 has projected a decline in the number of living veterans in the United States over the next 25
16 years, from 18.3 million today to 12.1 million by 2048[3].

17

18 On Veterans Day throughout the county, state, and country, many veterans' organizations host
19 events for veterans to give support, ease loneliness, and use comradery to combat lasting ill
20 effects of service.

21

22 In Dane County, the County's Veteran Service Office provides invaluable expertise and support
23 to veterans in the Dane County community. Their assistance in helping veterans apply for and
24 receive their benefits is completed with the compassion and care that the members of the
25 community that have committed to serving the country deserve.

26

27 2023 OA-073 has been introduced to establish November 11 as Veterans Day and makes
28 Veterans Day an official Dane County Holiday.

29

30 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County Board expresses gratitude to the
31 veterans living in Dane County, and throughout the country for their service.

32

33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Dane County commemorates Veterans Day as a county
34 holiday for employees on November 11 each year.

35

36 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors encourages
37 employees to use this proposed holiday to recognize, support, and learn more about veterans in
38 the community.

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[1] https://department.va.gov/veterans-day/history-of-veterans-day/
[2] https://www.va.gov/vetdata/veteran_population.asp
[3] https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2023/11/08/the-changing-face-of-americas-veteran-population/