

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS**

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING VETERANS DAY AND OPERATION GREEN LIGHT

WHEREAS, the residents of Douglas County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this 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 all citizens; and

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

WHEREAS, Douglas County is home to more than 27,000 veterans; 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 Veterans Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$50 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 between 44 and 72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during 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;

WHEREAS, Douglas County has invested in suicide prevention by offering treatment, Mental Health First Aid Training for Veterans Service Officers, creating a mental health liaison for veterans within the Veterans Service Office and providing information on the crisis line 988 to veterans; and

WHEREAS, Douglas County joins the National Association of Counties and encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs across the United States, to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

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

WHEREAS, at its Veterans Day Event on November 11, 2024, Douglas County will place special emphasis on Purple Heart veterans that have served our country along with all their veteran counterparts; therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, Douglas County hereby declares November 4th through November 11th, 2024, 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, Douglas 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 4th through the 11th, 2024.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 4th day of November 2024, in Castle Rock, Douglas County, Colorado

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS**

BY: _____
George Teal, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Hayley Hall, Deputy Clerk to the Board