



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

WHEREAS, Gaston County seeks to honor these individuals who have paid the high price for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and,

WHEREAS, there are more than 13,600 Veterans residing in Gaston County with an estimated 19,000 dependent family members; and,

WHEREAS, Veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, and civil service; and,

WHEREAS, Approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; 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, Gaston County appreciates the sacrifices of our United State Military Personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, Gaston County hereby declares from October 25th, 2022 through Veterans Day, November 11th, 2022 a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform transitioning from Active Service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in observance of Operation Green Light, Gaston County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying a green light in a window of their place of business or residence.

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Chad Brown, Chairman

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Allen R. Fraley

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Tom Keigher

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Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman

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Tracy L. Philbeck

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Kim Johnson

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Ronald E. Worley