



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DAY

WHEREAS: The Medal of Honor is the U.S. Armed Forces highest military decoration. According to the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, it is awarded by the President of the United States to recognize U.S. military personnel who have demonstrated “gallantry and intrepidity, at the risk of their lives, above and beyond the call of duty”; *and*

WHEREAS: Each year, March 25 marks National Medal of Honor Day. This date was selected as the first Medals of Honor of the country were given out on March 25, 1863 to recognize six members of Andrews’ Raiders during the American Civil War for their military valor. In 1991, Congress formally established National Medal of Honor Day to foster public appreciation and recognition of Medal of Honor Recipients; *and*

WHEREAS: Since 1863, there have been 3,517 recipients of the Medal of Honor in the United States. Today, there are 63 living Medal of Honor Recipients, who have served in conflicts including World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War and the Global War on Terrorism; *and*

WHEREAS: In Boston, Thomas Gunning Kelley, Captain, U.S. Navy (Retired), is a Medal of Honor recipient for his military valor during the Vietnam War. Captain Kelley also served as Secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Veterans’ Service from 2003 to 2011. Now retired, he volunteers regularly at the monthly Veterans Lunch held at St. Anthony’s Shrine in partnership with the New England Center for Homeless Veterans. We recognize the longtime advocacy and service of Captain Kelley and his lifelong commitment to veterans and military families throughout the country; *and*

WHEREAS: On each and every National Medal of Honor Day, we recognize and celebrate our recipients who have shown remarkable bravery and valor during military combat. We also remember and honor all those who have made the supreme sacrifice, as well as our veterans, and military families for their important contributions and sacrifices to our country; *and*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the Boston City Council proclaims March 25, 2024 as National Medal of Honor Day, honors our past and present Medal of Honor recipients and recognizes the contributions and sacrifices of our U.S. Armed Forces, veterans and military families.

Filed on: March 25, 2024

By: _____
President of the City Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of the City Council

Offered by: _____

Date: _____