



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING MEMORIAL DAY AND HONORING THOSE WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE FOR OUR COUNTRY AND OUR GOLD STAR FAMILIES

- WHEREAS:** Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday of May to honor those that made the supreme sacrifice while serving in the U.S. military; *and*
- WHEREAS:** After the Civil War, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, the head of a Union veteran organization established Decoration Day on May 30th as a time for people to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers; *and*
- WHEREAS:** By the late 1860s, many different localities around the country were holding their own springtime tributes to fallen soldiers and the war dead, and decorating their graves with flowers. The first large observance of Decoration Day was held in 1868 at the Arlington National Cemetery; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Decoration Day continued to be observed on the local level, and in 1968, U.S. Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May, and the change went into effect in 1971; *and*
- WHEREAS:** On Memorial Day, we honor the more than 1.1 million American military personnel who made the supreme sacrifice for their country while serving in uniform, that their bravery and sacrifice shall never be forgotten; *and*
- WHEREAS:** We also honor our Gold Star Families, whose family members have paid the supreme sacrifice while serving in the military, and recognize the sacrifice that Gold Star Families have made for our country; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Boston has a number of events on Memorial Day, one of the most prominent being the annual flag garden in the Boston Common, where tens of thousands of American flags are placed to commemorate fallen soldiers dating back to the Revolutionary War; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Other Memorial Day events include wreath laying ceremonies at the South Boston Vietnam Veterans Memorial (Medal of Honor Park), and at the Puerto Rican Veterans Memorial in the South End, and the City of Boston's Veterans Services and veteran organizations throughout the city are still safely and individually placing flags at our military cemeteries in honor of those that paid the supreme sacrifice for our country, including our Gold Star families; *and*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the Boston City Council honors those who made the supreme sacrifice in service to our country, including our Gold Star Families during Memorial Day.