



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PURPLE HEART DAY

- WHEREAS:** National Purple Heart Day, observed on August 7th of every year, commemorates the creation of the oldest American military decoration for military merit. It is a day when Americans pause to remember and honor the brave men and women who were either wounded on the battlefield or paid the ultimate sacrifice with their lives; *and*
- WHEREAS:** The Purple Heart is awarded to American Service members who served in the U.S. military who are injured, wounded or died while a prisoner of war (POW). It honors and recognizes the bravery and sacrifices of the men and women who served this country; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Known as the Badge for Military Merit in the Revolutionary War, the Purple Heart was created by General George Washington in 1782, which was presented to soldiers for “any singularly meritorious action.” The design included a purple heart-shaped piece of silk, and symbolized the devotion and courage of an American patriot; *and*
- WHEREAS:** The Purple Heart was largely a footnote in the history of the Revolutionary War, until General Douglas MacArthur received the first modern day Purple Heart for his actions in World War II, and the U.S. War Department created the Order of the Purple Heart. The Purple Heart medal now bears a bust of George Washington and his coat of arms; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Before 1944, the Purple Heart was presented to service members for their commendable actions. Since 1944, the Purple Heart has been awarded to service members wounded or killed in combat. It is estimated that nearly 1.9 million service members have earned Purple Hearts since its creation; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Notable Purple Heart recipients include Senator John McCain, Senator Tammy Duckworth, Secretary of State Colin Powell, as well as President John F. Kennedy; *and*
- WHEREAS:** The Purple Heart Foundation was founded in 1957 as a non-profit that raises funds to support our nation’s veterans and their families. They fund important programs to help veterans recover and rehabilitate, provide academic scholarships, counseling services, financial, occupational and health education to military veterans and their families, and support research efforts and resources for veteran issues facing Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI); *and*
- WHEREAS:** US Military personnel, veterans, and fallen heroes have made important contributions and sacrifices to our country. On National Purple Heart Day, we remember and honor their achievements and stand in solidarity with them; *and*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the Boston City Council honors and recognizes those who are wounded in combat or made the supreme sacrifice in service to our country on National Purple Heart Day, continues to support our veterans and military families, and declares today National Purple Heart Day in the City of Boston.

Filed on: August 7th, 2024

By: _____
President of the City Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of the City Council

Date: _____