



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

WHEREAS: This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA);
and

WHEREAS: PVA is a non-profit veterans service organization that advocates for paralyzed veterans who have experienced spinal cord injuries and other disabilities. Their work focuses on advocating for quality health care, securing benefits, and helping paralyzed veterans find employment, and fighting for their civil rights; *and*

WHEREAS: PVA has 33 chapters and over 16,000 members across the country. The New England PVA chapter is based in West Roxbury and has assisted over 7,000 veterans, provided \$15,000 in COVID-19 relief grants to its members, and awarded \$5,500 to Veteran Affairs medical staff specializing in spinal cord injuries for their continuing education; *and*

WHEREAS: Paralyzed Veterans of America Awareness Month is observed in April every year to honor veterans living with spinal cord injuries and veterans with disabilities. The month recognizes the people, programs, and services that exist to help make these veterans' lives easier; *and*

WHEREAS: In April 1983, President Ronald Reagan established the first National Paralyzed Veterans Recognition Day to honor veterans living with spinal cord injuries and other disabilities. Three years later, in 1986, through extensive requests and advocacy by different chapters of Paralyzed Veterans of America, the day-long observance was extended to the month-long Paralyzed Veterans of America Awareness Month; *and*

WHEREAS: Paralyzed Veterans face many challenges that are often overlooked. We must recognize the important role that PVA plays in advocating and representing the interests and concerns of paralyzed veterans and other individuals with disabilities and ensuring these veterans' needs are met; *and*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the Boston City Council celebrates the 75th anniversary of Paralyzed Veterans America and recognizes April as Paralyzed Veterans of America Awareness Month in the City of Boston.

Filed on: April 13th, 2022