



Tompkins County Legislature

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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, residents across Tompkins County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all who have served selflessly their country and this community in the United States Armed Forces, and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces have been, and continue to be, vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens, and

WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually, many of whom will call Tompkins County home, anywhere from months to decades, and become great contributing members to our communities, and

WHEREAS, while many among those transitioning service members are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service, entities including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Vietnam Veterans of America, Team Red White Blue (RWB), Warrior Writers-Tompkins, Undergraduate Veterans Association of Cornell University, other community groups, and the County's Department of Veterans Services stand ready to help ease that transition and let them know they can find a community here in Tompkins County, and

WHEREAS, Operation Greenlight is now a national effort to shine a green light symbolizing hope, renewal, and wellbeing on the service of Veterans while providing county and local governments, businesses, area institutions, and our residents the opportunity to let Veterans know that they are seen, appreciated, and supported, and

WHEREAS, "A Legacy of Loyalty and Service" is the theme for Veterans Day 2024, paying homage to those individuals who put themselves in harm's way for the good of all, but also let it recognize their families, as their service is an essential component of that legacy not always experienced by the greater community, and

WHEREAS, in honoring the service and sacrifice of our Veterans, Tompkins County residents are called upon to switch at least one public-facing lightbulb to green to show visible support for our Veterans community during the second full week of November and beyond, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Tompkins County Legislature proclaims, recognizes, and designates November 10th-16th, 2024, as

VETERANS WEEK

in Tompkins County, in celebration of our community of Veterans, and further in observance of Operation Green Light, the Tompkins County Legislature encourages its residents in patriotic tradition to display a green light in a public-facing entry or window of their place of business or residence during Veterans Week and beyond with the hopes that, through this simple act of changing one light to green, we can honor those whose immeasurable sacrifice helped preserve our freedom.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Dan Klein, on behalf of the Tompkins County Legislature, have hereto set my hand and caused the great seal of the County of Tompkins to be affixed this the 7th day of November, 2024.

Dan Klein, Chair
Tompkins County Legislature