



Proclamation

23-49

WHEREAS, the residents of Queen Anne’s County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

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

WHEREAS, Queen Anne’s County seeks to honor individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm’s way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veterans Service Officers to help fellow former service members access more than \$272 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 250,000 service members and their families transition to civilian communities annually—with 50% experiencing high levels of stress during this transition; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 90 percent service members that deploy for military operations experience or witness traumatic events and are at a higher risk for developing PTSD, and many are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize *Operation Green Light* and *Veterans Day*, as well as *National Veterans and Military Families Month*; and

WHEREAS, Queen Anne’s County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel, veterans, and their families and believes specific recognition should be granted; therefore be it

WHEREAS, execution of Operation Green Light shall kick off Queen Anne’s County’s official time period in which residents may salute and honor the service and sacrifices of our military service members and veterans; and

WHEREAS, in observance of Operation Green Light, Queen Anne’s County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence from November 6th through the 12th, 2023; and

NOW THEREFORE, THE QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS will partner with the Center for the Military and Veteran Family to promote and celebrate Veterans Day on November 11th and National Veterans and Military Families Month for all of November 2023.