



Tompkins County Legislature

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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, since 1919 our country has paused at “the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month,” to respect and recognize the diligence, duty, and sacrifice committed faithfully by the people who don the uniforms of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and their reserve components, including the National Guard and Air National Guard, and

WHEREAS, each Veteran’s Day provides an opportunity to remember and honor the courage, valor, and dedication of those who paid the high price for freedom by placing themselves in harm’s way for the good of all, and

WHEREAS, Tompkins County joins in that commemoration with its leaders conveying our deepest gratitude and paying tribute to all these individuals – especially those who consider Tompkins County home – by communicating our sincere appreciation for their extraordinary contributions to our nation and their continued support of community today, and

WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually, with studies indicating that 44 to 72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during their transition from military to civilian life, and

WHEREAS, active Military Service Members exiting service to become Veterans are at a high risk for suicide during their first year following military service, and

WHEREAS, Operation Greenlight is an effort to show support for Veterans of all military conflicts, with a special emphasis on the Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan wars, as well as raise awareness about the many challenges Veterans face and the resources available at the county, state, and federal levels to assist Veterans and their families, and

WHEREAS, Operation Greenlight seeks to shine a light on the service of Veterans as the color green symbolizes hope, renewal, and well-being, and allows our greater community, by switching one public-facing lightbulb to green, to show visible support for our Veterans, and

WHEREAS, Operation Greenlight’s observation provides a time to salute and honor the service of New York’s Veterans and reminds us of our collective sacred obligations to our Veterans and their families, and

WHEREAS, Veterans continue to serve our country by focusing locally through involvement with organizations including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Vietnam Veterans of America, Veterans For Peace, Team Red White Blue (RWB), church and other community groups, as well as civil service, and

WHEREAS, organizations and businesses throughout Tompkins County wish to honor our Veterans on November 11, 2022, and beyond,

NOW THEREFORE, I, Shawna M. Black, as Chairwoman of the Tompkins County Legislature, do hereby proclaim November 6th through the 12th, 2022, as

Veteran's Week in Tompkins County

in celebration of our community of Veterans, and 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 window or entry of their place of business or residence during Veteran's Week with the hopes that, through this simple act of changing one light to green, we can spark meaningful conversations regarding the recognition of Veterans and help “green light” them forward as valued members of our communities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Shawna Black, have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of Tompkins County, State of New York, on this the 1st day of November 2022.



Shawna M. Black

Shawna Black, Chairwoman
Tompkins County Legislature