



A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT of *NEW YORK CITY'S* MILITARY AND VETERAN CAREGIVERS

WHEREAS, the series of wars in which our nation has been engaged over time, since World War II, has resulted in 5.5 million military and veteran caregivers who are parents, spouses, siblings and friends, caring for those wounded, ill or injured who have served our nation, as documented by the 2014 Rand study commissioned by the Elizabeth Dole Foundation; and

WHEREAS, the daily tasks of these military and veterans caregivers can include bathing, feeding, dressing, and caring for the grievous injuries of wounded warriors, administering medications, providing emotional support, caring for the family and the home, and working outside the home to earn essential income; and

WHEREAS, the nation provides multi-faceted support to our wounded, ill and injured veterans and service members through public, private and philanthropic resources, but their caregivers receive little support or acknowledgement; and

WHEREAS, most military and veteran caregivers consider the challenging work they do as simply carrying out their civic and patriotic duty, without realizing they are, in fact, caregivers, and do not identify themselves as such; and

WHEREAS, an alarming number of military and veteran caregivers, according to research, are suffering numerous debilitating mental, physical and emotional effects as a result of their caregiving duties; and

WHEREAS, the City of *New York* desires to recognize and support those who are serving in these vital roles in our own community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City of *New York* as follows:

- I. That the City of *New York* becomes a military and veteran caregiver supportive city.

- II.** That the City of *New York seeks* to identify military and veteran caregivers residing in our city.
- III.** That the City of *New York work* to ensure that our government, organizations, employers and non-profits are aware of the unique challenges of military and veteran caregivers and are encouraged to create supportive environments and opportunities for assistance.
- IV.** That the City of *New York plan* an observance each May, during Military Appreciation Month, to honor and recognize the city's military and veteran caregivers in partnership with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation's national Hidden Heroes campaign.
- V.** That the City of *New York encourages* all who care for and support veterans and service members to extend that support to their caregivers.
- VI.** That the City of *New York designate* a point of contact for our city, from the public or private sector, for citizens and organizations wanting to offer support, and caregivers who need that support.

Adopted by the City of *New York on this 26th day of September 2016.*