

City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

LEGISLATIVE POLICY DIVISION

208 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Phone: (313) 224-4946 Fax: (313) 224-4336

David Whitaker, Esq.

Director

Irvin Corley, Jr.

Executive Policy Manager

Marcell R. Todd, Jr.

Senior City Planner

Janese Chapman

Deputy Director

John Alexander

LaKisha Barclift, Esq.

M. Rory Bolger, Ph.D., AICP

Elizabeth Cabot, Esq.

Tasha Cowen

George Etheridge

Christopher Gulock, AICP

Derrick Headd

Marcel Hurt, Esq.

Kimani Jeffrey

Anne Marie Langan

Jamie Murphy

Carolyn Nelson

Kim Newby

Analine Powers, Ph.D.

Jennifer Reinhardt

Sabrina Shockley

Thomas Stephens, Esq.

David Teeter

Theresa Thomas

Kathryn Lynch Underwood

Ashley Wilson

TO: Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David D. Whitaker
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: May 26, 2021

RE: **Resolution in support of Women Veterans Recognition Day**

On May 11, 2021, the Honorable Council President Brenda Jones, requested the Legislative Policy Division to draft a resolution in support of Michigan Senate Resolution No. 55, which recognizes June 12th as Women Veterans Recognition Day.

Attached, please find our draft of the resolution and contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

BY HONORABLE COUNCIL PRESIDENT BRENDA JONES

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF WOMEN VETERANS RECOGNITION DAY

WHEREAS, The mission of the Detroit City Council is to promote the economic, cultural and physical welfare of Detroit's citizens through Charter-mandated legislative functions; and

WHEREAS, Women have formally been a part of the United States Armed Forces since the inception of the Army Nurses Corps in 1901, but informally, have served since the inception of our nation's military; and

WHEREAS, Women have proudly served their country throughout all periods of the history of the United States, whether disguised as male soldiers during the American Revolutionary War and Civil War, as nurses in World War I, or as combat helicopter pilots in Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, This year commemorates the 73rd Anniversary of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, which was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman on June 12, 1948, and enabled women to serve in all branches of the military as permanent, regular members; and

WHEREAS, Despite their resilience and strength, women veterans face a unique set of challenges within their battalions and much more remains to be done to ensure that women in the Armed Forces are treated equitably and with the respect they deserve; and

WHEREAS, In the late 1970s and early 1980s, many of the contributions made by women in World War I, were formally recognized through laws that granted these women with veteran status for their time in service. This opened the doors for women to take advantage of programs, opportunities, and benefits from the federal and state governments, the Department of Veteran Affairs, and other veteran service organizations; and

WHEREAS, In 2008, VHA's Women Veterans Health Strategic Health Care Group, began a five year plan to redesign the nation's health care delivery system for women. A fundamental component of this plan, was to ensure that all women veterans had access to comprehensive primary care from skilled women's health providers; and

WHEREAS, At the time of the 1980 decennial census, women made up just over two percent of the veteran population. Today, that proportion has increased to almost eight percent; and

WHEREAS, There are currently over two million women veterans living in the United States and Puerto Rico. Michigan is home to approximately 44,000 women veterans who deserve to be honored for their bravery and service and sacrifice, **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Council supports Michigan Senate Resolution No. 55 and in doing so hereby proclaim June 12, 2021 as Women Veterans Recognition Day in the City of Detroit, **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the office of the Detroit City Clerk and Mayor Duggan.