



ROY COOPER

GOVERNOR

WOMEN VETERANS MONTH

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to more than 84,000 women veterans who have served with honor and valor in every branch of the United States military; and

WHEREAS, General Ann E. Dunwoody, the first woman in United States military history to serve as a four-star general, commanded the 407th Supply and Service Battalion/782d Main Support Battalion, and the 1st Corps Support Command at Fort Bragg; and

WHEREAS, Brigadier General Jeannie Leavitt, the Air Force's first female fighter pilot and first female fighter wing commander, held her first command over the 333rd Fighter Squadron and later commanded the 4th Fighter Wing at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the first three female infantry Marines joined the 1st Battalion, 8th Marines unit at Camp Lejeune; that same year, six women at Fort Bragg became the first ever to earn the Army Expert Infantryman Badge; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Millie Dunn Veasey of Raleigh, a WWII veteran who served in the 6888th Battalion – the only all-black, all-female unit deployed overseas – celebrated her 100th birthday this year; and

WHEREAS, the skills that women have learned during their service in the Armed Forces have set them apart as leaders in North Carolina's communities, industry, and government; in 2015, North Carolina ranked 5th in the nation for veteran women-owned employer firms by the number employed; and

WHEREAS, women's influence in the Armed Forces continues to grow; the percentage of women veterans is expected to nearly double in the next 30 years; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina is proud to recognize women veterans, who have served our nation for generations during times of conflict and peace, and to thank them for their sacrifice and courage;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March, 2018, as **"WOMEN VETERANS MONTH"** in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-sixth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.