**Supporting Operation Green Light for Active Military Service Members in Transition to Civilian Life (Veteran Status)**

WHEREAS, the residents of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all of the men and women who have selflessly served their country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

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

WHEREAS, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County seeks to honor these individuals who have paid the high price for freedom by placing themselves in harm’s way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, New York States Veteran Population has decreased by 44% over the last 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Veterans continue to serve their community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, church groups, civil service; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 20% increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44% to 72% of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, Active Military Service Members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County appreciates the sacrifices our United State Military Personnel made while defending freedom and believes specific recognition be accorded them in appreciation of their service and to demonstrate the honor and support they have earned; therefore be it

RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Military Service County, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County hereby declares from October through Veterans Day, November 11th 2023 a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform transitioning from Active Service; therefore, be it further

RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who the immeasurable sacrifices helped to preserve freedom by displaying a green light in a window of their place of business or residence.