

## PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF WOMEN VETERANS DAY

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 805 established June 12th as Women Veterans Day in Texas and it was signed into law by Governor Greg Abbott on June 9, 2017 to recognize the role of women in the military and to commemorate the sacrifices of and valor displayed by Texas women veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, it was on that day in 1948 when President Harry S. Truman signed into law the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, enabling women to serve as regular members of the military; and

**WHEREAS**, women have served their country dating back to the Revolutionary War as laundresses, cooks, nurses, and spies. During World War I, more than 400 women were killed in action, In World War II approximately 400,000 women served in noncombat roles, including as mechanics, pilots, clerks, nurses, ambulance drivers, and field intelligence agents in the OSS with 88 women taken prisoner of war and 16 killed in action; and

**WHEREAS**, Cmdr. Elizabeth Barrett became the first woman to hold a command in a combat zone during the Vietnam War; in 1998 Capt. Kathleen McGrath became the first woman to command a U.S. Navy warship; in 2004 Col. Linda McTague became the first woman to command a U.S. Air Force fighter squadron; in 2008 Army Gen. Ann Dunwoody became the first woman to achieve four-star officer rank; in 2014 Michelle Howard became the first woman to become a four-star admiral; in 2016 Air Force Gen. Lori Robinson took over as leader of the U.S. Northern Command, becoming the first woman to lead a unified combatant command and the highest ranking woman in U.S. military history; and

**WHEREAS**, American women have found ways to serve their country despite resistance from men, sometimes going as far as impersonating male soldiers to join the fight.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim June 12<sup>th</sup> as Women Veterans Day in tribute to all women who have served in the Armed Forces and thank them for their service and sacrifices.

**Approved this 6th day of June, 2019.**

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**RICHARD F. CORTEZ**  
County Judge

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**DAVID L. FUENTES**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

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**EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

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**JOE M. FLORES**  
County Commissioner, Pct.3

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**ELLIE TORRES**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

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**Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.**  
County Clerk