

1 **A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA AS A PURPLE HEART**
2 **COUNTY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

3 **WHEREAS**, the Purple Heart medal is awarded in the name of the President of
4 the United States and is presented to service members who have been wounded or killed
5 as a result of enemy action while serving in the U.S. military; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the Purple Heart medal is a solemn distinction that signifies a service
7 member has greatly sacrificed themselves, having been wounded, or paid the ultimate
8 price, having been killed, while in the line of duty; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Purple Heart is the oldest U.S. military decoration in use, having
10 been initially created as the badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in
11 1782; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County, Georgia has a large, highly decorated veteran
13 population, including Purple Heart recipients; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women from Fulton
15 County, Georgia who have served in the U.S. military have been vital in maintaining the
16 freedoms and way of life enjoyed by all of our citizens; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners appreciates the sacrifices
18 that our Purple Heart recipients made while defending freedom, and believes specific
19 recognition should be afforded to them in appreciation of their courage; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in 1932, the Military Order of the Purple Heart initiated the Purple
21 Heart Trail Program by designating roads, highways, and bridges as Purple Heart entities
22 to honor the men and women who received the Purple Heart medal; and

23 **WHEREAS**, over the years, requests for Purple Heart designations have
24 expanded to include colleges, universities, towns, cities, states and counties in order to
25 pay tribute to Purple Heart recipients, ensure that veterans get some benefits in return for
26 the Purple Heart designation, and standardize such requests and approvals; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Purple Heart County designation fosters an environment of
2 goodwill among the combat-wounded veteran members and their families, promotes
3 patriotism, and honors the service of all military members; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners seeks to honor these
5 individuals who have paid the high price for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way
6 for the good of all by declaring Fulton County, Georgia a Purple Heart County; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners has authority, pursuant to
8 the Constitution of the State of Georgia, Article 9, Sec. 2 ¶ 1(a), to adopt and amend
9 reasonable ordinances, resolutions, or regulations relating to its affairs for which no
10 provision has been made by general law and which is not inconsistent with the Georgia
11 Constitution or any local law applicable thereto.

12 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fulton County Board of
13 Commissioners hereby designates Fulton County, Georgia as a Purple Heart County,
14 honoring the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform wounded or killed
15 by the enemy while serving to protect the freedom of all Americans.

16 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the citizens of Fulton County are encouraged
17 to show their appreciation for the sacrifices that Purple Heart recipients have made in
18 defending our freedoms by acknowledging their courage and showing them the honor,
19 respect, and support that they have so deservedly earned.

20 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that to reflect Fulton County's designation as a
21 Purple Heart County and to show our honor to Purple Heart recipients, the County will:

- 22 • Place Purple Heart County signs at the entrances to the Fulton County
23 Government Center;
- 24 • Celebrate Purple Heart Day, August 7th, by displaying a Purple Heart banner at the
25 Fulton County Government Center annually on August 7th;
- 26 • Change the exterior lighting of the Fulton County Government Center from white
27 to purple for Purple Heart Day;

- 1 • Encourage Fulton County residents and business owners to purchase and display
- 2 purple lights in and around their homes and/or properties on August 7th;
- 3 • Provide “Purple Heart License Plate” designated preferred parking spaces at
- 4 certain County facilities; and
- 5 • Apply the following discounts to Purple Heart recipients who show their DD214
- 6 discharge papers or Military Order of the Purple Heart membership card:
 - 7 ○ 10 percent discount on County facility rentals
 - 8 ○ 10 percent discount on County programs/classes
 - 9 ○ Free pet adoption

10 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall become effective upon its
 11 adoption, and that all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with this Resolution
 12 are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

13 **PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County,
 14 Georgia, this 4th day of September, 2024.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Sponsored by:

18 *Marvin S. Arrington, Jr.*
 19
 20 Marvin S. Arrington, Jr., Commissioner
 21 District 5

23 ATTEST:

24 *Tonya R. Grier*
 25
 26 Tonya R. Grier, Clerk to the Commission



29 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

30 *Y. Soo Jo*
 31
 32 Y. Soo Jo, County Attorney