

Proclamation

Whereas, 2024 marks the 76th anniversary of the Women’s Armed Services Integration Act of 1948, the groundbreaking legislation that granted women a permanent place and the opportunity for a career in the nation’s military; and

Whereas, two million women veterans have served the United States, with more than 160,000 living in California according to the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet); and

Whereas, women are the fastest growing group in the veteran population, accounting for 10% of the overall veteran population today, growing to 18% of the veteran population by 2040; and

Whereas, the early 1990s were a historic time for women in the military, with the deployment of over 40,000 women in support of the Persian Gulf War and, in 1992, the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act that repealed combat exclusion laws that prevented women from flying combat aircraft; and

Whereas, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and CalVet have introduced initiatives to improve healthcare access and quality of care for women veterans who, disproportionately, do not use their hard-earned veterans benefits; and

Whereas, the Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission advises and assists the Board of Supervisors on matters relating to veterans and their families, including veterans benefits, housing, food, shelter, transportation, and employment, and is also charged with providing representation for all veterans’ observance days, such as today’s Women Veterans Recognition Day, to honor and celebrate the respective contributions of all service members.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that I, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Mayor of the City of Alameda, hereby proudly proclaim June 12, 2024, as Women Veterans Recognition Day and urge all City residents to join in celebrating the many contributions of the women who have served in our armed forces.



Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft
Mayor

