#### BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

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FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECOGNIZING THE OBSERVANCE OF VETERANS DAY ON NOVEMBER 11, 2019 IN THE GREATER PORTLAND REGION **RESOLUTION NO. 19-5049** 

Introduced by Councilor Craig Dirksen

WHEREAS, in 1954, Congress formally designated November 11 as Veterans Day to pay tribute to all American Veterans on the day previously observed as Armistice Day; and

WHEREAS, the people who serve and protect the United States represent the diversity of our Nation and our community, including Americans of all races, nationalities, colors, abilities, and creeds, and this diversity is what makes our Nation and our Armed Forces stronger and more vibrant; and

WHEREAS; there are more than 100,000 Veterans who live in the Greater Portland region and they share with us their strong work ethic, sense of duty, adaptability, and commitment to their community and public service, and that these skills strengthen our community and our workplaces; and

WHEREAS, Metro honors Veteran employees and job applicants through our Veterans preference policy, and currently employs 70 Veterans who enrich our organization; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that Veterans face profound challenges, both during service and at home, and we must work together to ensure our Veterans have access to the stable and affordable housing that they have earned and deserve.

BE IT RESOLVED that, in observance of Veterans Day on November 11, 2019, that on this day all Veterans and current members of the Armed Forces, Active, Reserve, and National Guard be honored and remembered.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 7th day of November 2019.

Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:

Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney

## **STAFF REPORT**

## IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 19-5049, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECOGNIZING THE OBSERVANCE OF VETERANS DAY ON NOVEMBER 11, 2019 IN THE GREATER PORTLAND REGION

Date: October 25, 2019 Department: Council Office Meeting Date: November 7, 2019 Prepared by: Anne Buzzini, anne.buzzini@oregonmetro.gov, (503) 517-6910 Presenter: Paul Slyman

## **ISSUE STATEMENT**

The Metro Council has the opportunity to honor and remember Veterans and members of the Armed Services by adopting Resolution No. 19-5049, recognizing the observance of Veterans Day on November 11, 2019 in the Greater Portland region.

## **ACTION REQUESTED**

Consideration and vote on Resolution No. 19-5049.

## **IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES**

Advancing Metro Council's proclamation that November 11, 2019 be observed as Veterans Day in the Greater Portland region.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends the Metro Council adopt Resolution No. 19-5049.

## STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

## **1. Known Opposition/Support/Community Feedback** No known opposition. Other jurisdictions in the region, including Multnomah County and the City of Beaverton, have adopted resolutions honoring the observance of Veterans Day.

# 2. Legal Antecedents

This is the first year that Metro Council has considered adoption of a resolution to observe Veterans Day.

## 3. Anticipated Effects

November 11, 2019 will be observed as Veterans Day for all Metro employees, honoring and remembering all Veterans and members of the Armed Forces.

**4. Financial Implications (current year and ongoing)** None.

## BACKGROUND

On November 11, 1919—the first anniversary of the end of World War I—the United States began to observe Armistice Day. In 1926, Congress passed a resolution to observe the day annually, and in 1938, the day became a national holiday. In 1954, President Eisenhower issued the first Veterans Day proclamation, changing the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day to recognize all those who served in the Armed Forces.

Veterans and their families are vital members of our community in the greater Portland region. They have demonstrated a deep commitment to public service and community during their service, and many have sacrificed their lives for our continued liberty.

Veterans exemplify the American values of freedom, courage, and selflessness. They have earned and deserve the support of their community upon their return home. Observing November 11, 2019 as Veterans Day in the greater Portland region will honor and remember all those who have served in the Armed Forces.

ATTACHMENTS None.