



## State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

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*Governor*

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
*Lt. Governor*

NEIL VAN ESS  
*Acting Chairman*

CELINA LEVY  
*Acting Executive Director*

### RESOLUTION

#### Recognizing November 11, 2018 as Veterans Day

May 16, 2019

**WHEREAS**, Veterans Day, November 11, 2018, is a celebration honoring all America's Veterans who have served in times of war, and in times of peace, acknowledging the 340,561 Veterans, 25,678 of which are women, along with their families, living in New Jersey, recognizing military families have a culture and unique behavioral health needs that may not always be understood within the greater community; and

**WHEREAS**, the demanding environments of military life and experiences of combat, during which many Veterans experience psychological distress, can be further complicated by substance use and related disorders, with many service members facing such critical issues as trauma, suicide, homelessness, and/or involvement with the criminal justice system; and

**WHEREAS**, research also shows the negative impacts deployment and trauma-related stress can have on military families, particularly spouses and children; and

**WHEREAS**, there were 6,000 Veteran suicides each year from 2008 to 2016, with the rate of suicide for male Veterans 1.5 percent higher than non-Veterans, 1.8 percent higher for women Veterans than non-veterans, and a substantial increase in suicide for Veterans aged 18-34, as well as an increase in never-Federally activated National Guard and Reserves; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Complex PTSD are the most prevalent mental health challenges faced by our nation's Veterans, significantly increasing the risk for a Substance Use Disorder (SUD), making it an imperative to encourage veterans and their families to seek effective PTSD treatment, and for them to know they are not alone; and

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey proudly supports its Veterans with resources including Vets4Warriors 855-VET-TALK, Vet2Vet 866-VETS-NJ4, National Suicide Prevention Hotline 800-273-TALK, Vet Center Combat Call Center 877-995-5247, and the recently rereleased Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse / NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Resource Guide for Veterans, military, and their families.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse hereby recognizes Veterans Day, November 11, 2018, in gratitude to our brave and dedicated military, Veterans, and their families for their service to our nation.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to Governor Phil Murphy, the New Jersey Legislature, the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, County Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Directors and County Alliance Coordinators.

  
Neil Van Ess, Acting Chairman

  
Date