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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF SUMTER)
)
CITY OF SUMTER)

WHEREAS, the original Purple Heart, known as the Badge of Military Merit, is an American decoration, the oldest military decoration in the world in present use; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was established by General George Washington at Newburgh, New York on August 7, 1782, during the Revolutionary War, as an incentive to the Continental Army; and

WHEREAS, it was the first award made available to the common soldier to recognize outstanding valor or merit; and

WHEREAS, following nearly 150 years of disuse, the Purple Heart was reestablished by the President of the United States per War Department General Order No. 3, dated February 22, 1932; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is awarded to military and civilian members of the U.S. Armed Forces who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who were killed in action or die from wounds received in action; and

WHEREAS, recipients of the Purple Heart have known the meaning of sacrifice in the preservation of the United States of America and national interests at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 1.7 million Purple Heart recipients in our nation's history; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sumter is honored to recognize all military members who have or are currently serving from the Sunshine State, and are proud to proclaim today as a special tribute to those brave service members who have received the Purple Heart.

NOW THEREFORE, ***BE IT RESOLVED THAT I,*** Joseph T. McElveen, Jr., Mayor of the City of Sumter, South Carolina, do hereby proclaim the week of August 6 - _____ ***2012*** as:

"FLORIDA PURPLE HEART DAY"

in the

CITY OF SUMTER

and hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing _____ as Florida Purple Heart Day.

Joseph T. McElveen, Jr., Mayor

Linda D. Hammett, City Clerk