

City of Petaluma

Proclamation

WOMEN VETERANS DAY – JUNE 12, 2023

WHEREAS, June 12, 1948 marked the date that women were officially allowed to serve as regular and permanent members of the armed forces in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and the Air Force; and

WHEREAS, women have always played a unique role in United States military history, overcoming obstacles to find ways to serve; and

WHEREAS, despite history's sparse documentation, women have always answered the call to protect and defend our freedoms from as far back as the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, it took decades for the restrictions placed on their service capacity to change, but eventually women were able to participate in the armed forces during peacetime; and

WHEREAS, by 1970, women's role in the military expanded, finally allowing them to command roles in non-combat units; and

WHEREAS, it was not until 2013 that women achieved full status in the military when they were granted the right to serve in direct ground combat roles; and

WHEREAS, currently, there are approximately 145,000 women in the State of California who have served or are serving in the armed forces; and

WHEREAS, we owe an inexpressible debt to our current and past service women who have selflessly served so that we may live free, and their unquestioned loyalty and value will undoubtedly inspire future generations; now therefore, I, Kevin McDonnell, Mayor of Petaluma, do hereby proclaim June 12, 2023 as Women Veterans Day.

Kevin McDonnell, Mayor

Kendall Sawyer, City Clerk