RESOLUTION NO. 2017-9

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST COVINA, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF WEST COVINA'S MILITARY AND VETERAN CAREGIVERS (HIDDEN HEROES)

The City Council of the City of West Covina does resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, the series of wars in which our nation has been engaged over time, since World War II, has resulted in 5.5 million military and veteran caregivers who are parents, spouses, siblings and friends, caring for those wounded, ill or injured who have served our nation, as documented by the 2014 Rand study commissioned by the Elizabeth Dole Foundation; and

WHEREAS, the daily tasks of these military and veterans caregivers can include bathing, feeding, dressing, and caring for the grievous injuries of wounded warriors, administering medications, providing emotional support, caring for the family and the home, and working outside the home to earn essential income; and

WHEREAS, the nation provides multi-faceted support to our wounded, ill and injured veterans and service members through public, private and philanthropic resources, but their caregivers receive little support or acknowledgement; and

WHEREAS, most military and veteran caregivers consider the challenging work they do as simply carrying out their civic and patriotic duty, without realizing they are, in fact, caregivers, and do not identify themselves as such; and

WHEREAS, an alarming number of military and veteran caregivers, according to research, are suffering numerous debilitating mental, physical and emotional effects as a result of their caregiving duties; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Covina desires to recognize and support those who are serving in these vital roles in our own community;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST COVINA AS FOLLOWS:

- <u>I.</u> That the City of West Covina become a Hidden Heroes City in support of military and veteran caregivers.
- <u>II.</u> That the City of West Covina seek to identify military and veteran caregivers residing in our city.
- III. That the City of West Covina work to ensure that our government, organizations, employers and non-profits are aware of the unique challenges of military and veteran caregivers and are encouraged to create supportive environments and opportunities for assistance.

- <u>IV.</u> That the City of West Covina plan an observance each May, during Military Appreciation Month, to honor and recognize the city's military and veteran caregivers in partnership with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation's national Hidden Heroes campaign.
- <u>V.</u> That the City of West Covina encourage all who care for and support veterans and service members to extend that support to their caregivers.
- <u>VI.</u> That the City of West Covina designate a point of contact for our city, from the public or private sector, for citizens and organizations wanting to offer support, and caregivers who need that support.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of March, 2017.

Corey Warshaw

Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST:

Kimberly H. Barlow

City Attorney

Nickolas S. Lewis

City Clerk

I, HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of West Covina, California, at a regular meeting thereof on the 7th day of March, 2017, by the following vote of City Council:

AYES:

Johnson, Toma, Warshaw, Spence, Wu

NOES:

None

ABSENT:

None

ABSTAIN:

None

Nickolas S. Lewis

City Clerk