

**THIS IS A DRAFT AND WILL BE REPLACED BY THE FINAL, SIGNED  
ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL.**

**A RESOLUTION**

**DECLARING SAN ANTONIO A “HIDDEN HEROES” CITY.**

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**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 veteran 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**, in support of military and veteran caregivers, the Elizabeth Dole Foundation has launched the Hidden Heroes campaign, which includes the Hidden Heroes Cities-a nationwide network of cities committed to unifying their existing support and resources and adding others that are needed; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of San Antonio desires to recognize and support those who are serving in these vital roles in our own community by becoming a Hidden Heroes City; **NOW THEREFORE:**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:**

**SECTION 1.** City Council declares the City of San Antonio to be a Hidden Heroes City.

**SECTION 2.** The Veterans Affairs Commission will maintain a registry of caregivers and

continually update the register to create supportive environments and opportunities for assistance.

**SECTION 3.** The Veterans Affairs Commission shall appoint a Hidden Heroes Steering Committee to serve as the organizing force for a citywide effort to promote awareness and to offer support and assistance. The Chairman of the Veterans Affairs Commission and his designated co-chair shall serve on the Steering Committee and act as the point of contact.

**SECTION 4.** All efforts undertaken by the Veterans Affairs Commission in regard to this Resolution shall be coordinated with the City's Office of Military Affairs.

**SECTION 5.** This Resolution is effective immediately upon the receipt of eight affirmative votes; otherwise, it is effective ten days after passage.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS** 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2017.

**M A Y O R**  
Ivy R. Taylor

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

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Andrew Segovia, City Attorney