



## Proclamation Veterans of Foreign Wars “Buddy Poppy” In the City of Hastings, Minnesota

**WHEREAS**, At the end of World War I, The Veterans of Foreign Wars adopted the poppy as a symbol of freedom and the blood sacrificed by troops in wartimes; and

**WHEREAS**, Poppies are worn and displayed as a symbolic tribute to our fallen and the future of living veterans and servicemembers; and

**WHEREAS**, The annual distribution of Buddy Poppies by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States has been officially recognized and endorsed by governmental leaders since 1922; and

**WHEREAS**, the Buddy Poppy was registered with the United States Patent Office in February 1924. A certificate was issued on May 20, 1924, granting the VFW Organization all trademark rights in the name of Buddy under the classification of artificial flowers; and

**WHEREAS**, The Buddy Poppy was adopted as the official memorial flower of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, as it remains today; and

**WHEREAS**, The Buddy Poppy program provides financial assistance in maintaining state and national veteran’s rehabilitation and service programs and partially supports the VFW National Home; and

**WHEREAS**, The basic purpose of the annual distribution of Buddy Poppies by the Veterans of Foreign Wars is eloquently reflected in the desire to “Honor the Dead by Helping the Living”.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Mayor of the City of Hastings, do hereby urge the citizens of this community to recognize the merits of this cause by contributing generously to its support through your donations for Buddy Poppies on the day set for the distribution of these symbols of appreciation of the sacrifices of our honored dead.

**FURTHER**, I urge all patriotic citizens to wear a Buddy Poppy as mute evidence of our gratitude to the men and women of this country who have risked their lives in defense of the freedoms which we continue to enjoy as American citizens. **IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand and sign this proclamation on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024.

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Mary D. Fasbender, Mayor