WHEREAS, Veterans Day is a federal holiday observed annually on November 11; locally, the Federation of War Veterans’ Societies of Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh will commemorate this day with a parade, as it has done for over 100 years, honoring all who have served in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the Federation of War Veterans Societies organized on August 1, 1919 and consists of fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational organizations; its mission is to honor all veterans of all United States’ wars with patriotic rallies and parades and to teach and foster true patriotism and allegiance to the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, this year, the Federation has invited Brigadier General Maureen Weigl, Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs for the state to serve as the Grand Marshal for the Pittsburgh Veteran’s Day Parade; the Thursday, November 11, 2021 event in downtown Pittsburgh will also include retired Air Force Colonel Anne S. Pospisil who will serve as the announcer, making this the first year a woman will serve in both roles for this prestigious event; and

WHEREAS, this year’s parade is divided into four divisions with the first division serving as the Honor Division; it consists of federation officers, national, state, county and municipal dignitaries, Gold Star and Blue star mothers, wives and families; the Honor Division also includes the Grand Marshal; and

WHEREAS, people from near and far will line the streets in the heart of downtown Pittsburgh in a gesture of gratitude and thankfulness to salute veterans, past and present, from all over the region, who have served and continue to serve our country; the parade kicks off at 10:30 a.m. and will traverse Liberty Avenue to Commonwealth Place with the reviewing stand located at the apex of Liberty and Penn avenues; and
WHEREAS, though we celebrate veterans on November 11th, we are appreciative each and every day for the liberties we possess because of the members of our armed forces; we thank them for their love of country, willingness to serve and sacrifices made for the common good; we are also grateful to all who work tirelessly to produce an event equivalent to the recognition they deserve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby recognize and thank all United State veterans, past and present, as well as the organizations that celebrate them in Allegheny County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 11th day of November, 2021.

Rich Fitzgerald