COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

PROCLAMATION
BY THE
GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is home to over 400 Hidden Heroes—military and veteran caregivers identified and registered by the Elizabeth Dole Foundation—with many others who remain unseen and unverified; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, Pennsylvania was formally recognized as a Hidden Heroes Commonwealth, honoring parents, spouses, siblings, children, and friends who care for wounded, ill, or injured service members who have served our nation; and

WHEREAS, the daily tasks of these military and veteran caregivers can include every major and minor task caring for the 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, 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 may not identify themselves as such; and

WHEREAS, according to research conducted by the Elizabeth Dole Foundation, an alarming number of military and veteran caregivers suffer numerous debilitating mental, physical, and emotional effects as a result of their caregiving duties.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2026, to be

HIDDEN HEROES DAY

and I encourage all Pennsylvanians to support our military and veteran caregivers throughout the year, as they are often overlooked in their steadfast duty.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-seventh day of April two thousand twenty-six, the year of the Commonwealth the two hundred fiftieth.

Governor Josh Shapiro

COUNCIL 13
AFSCME
UNION LABEL