## The State of Washington **Aroclamation**

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining our freedoms and way of life; and

WHEREAS, tens of millions of Americans have served in the Armed Forces of the United States during the past century; and

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in Washington, and our veterans to the p WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of Americans have given their lives while serving in the Armed Forces during the past century; and

WHEREAS, our state is home to more than 607,000 veterans, 60,000 active duty military, 19,000 National Guard and Reserves, and their families; and

WHEREAS, our veterans are brave and selfless individuals who, when duty called, willingly put themselves in harm's way to defend the lives and liberty of others; and

WHEREAS, their abiding patriotism and enduring devotion to the ideals on which the United States is founded can never fail to inspire us; and

WHEREAS, our veterans understand the important task before those American service men and women now keeping watch; and

WHEREAS, all Washingtonians must strive to ensure that ours remains a land worthy of the great love our veterans have shown for it:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2015 as

## Veterans Day

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to acknowledge and honor the contributions of our veterans to the principles of democracy, individual freedom and human rights.

Signed this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2015