

- WHEREAS: The City of Dover recognizes the profound impact that service dogs have on the lives of individuals with disabilities, enhancing their independence, mobility, and overall quality of life; and
- WHEREAS: Approximately 61 million adults in the United States live with a disability, representing 26% of the adult population. Approximately 13% of children in the United States under the age of 18 have a disability; and
- WHEREAS: The United States is home to an estimated 500,000 service dogs who play a crucial role in assisting individuals with disabilities, including those with mobility impairments, visual and hearing impairments, autism, epilepsy, diabetes, and post-traumatic stress disorder, among others, by providing vital support, companionship, and a sense of security; and
- WHEREAS: National Service Dog Month provides an opportunity to raise awareness about the incredible contributions of service dogs, honor the dedicated individuals who train and care for these remarkable animals, and celebrate the profound bond between service dogs and the individuals they serve.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Robert Carrier, Mayor of the City of Dover in the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim the month of September as:

## NATIONAL SERVICE DOG MONTH

in the City of Dover and call this to the attention of all citizens.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dover to be affixed this 28<sup>th</sup> Day of August, 2024.

Robert Carrier, Mayor City of Dover, New Hampshire