

**PROCLAMATION  
OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FOLSOM  
PROCLAIMING DECEMBER 16, 2023 AS  
WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY**

**WHEREAS**, in 1992, Worcester Wreath Company owner, Morrill Worcester, with the aid of Maine Senator Olympia Snowe, arranged to donate, transport, and place Maine balsam fir wreaths on the graves of the fallen heroes at Arlington National Cemetery each December in honor of our fallen veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, the tribute each holiday season to honor each branch of the military, service men and women, continued annually, and in 2005 national interest inspired and prompted the formation of Wreaths Across America project; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2006, with the help of the Civil Air Patrol and other civic organizations, simultaneous wreath-laying ceremonies were held at over 150 locations around the country; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2007, the Worcester family, along with veterans, and other groups and individuals who helped with the annual wreath ceremony at Arlington, formed Wreaths Across America, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization with the mission of: **Remember** our fallen veterans, **Honor** those who serve, and **Teach** our children the value of freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, through the hard work and generosity of the people involved in the Wreaths Across America, hundreds of thousands of wreaths have been sent to cemeteries and veterans' memorials annually for wreath-laying on the second or third Saturday in December; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 13, 2008 the U.S. Congress unanimously voted this day as Wreaths Across America Day; and

**WHEREAS**, Wreaths Across America has chosen "Serve And Succeed," as its 2023 theme to encourage youth involvement in communities to serve in even small ways that can make a big impact; and

**WHEREAS**, Saturday, December 16, 2023, has been designated by the Wreaths Across America organization as the date for this year's wreath-laying ceremonies to occur.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROSARIO RODRIGUEZ**, Mayor of the City of Folsom, do hereby proclaim December 16, 2023 as Wreaths Across America Day in the City of Folsom and encourage our citizens to "Serve And Succeed" in joining Wreaths Across America volunteers and other patriotic, community, and veteran organizations to participate in the Wreaths Across America Day ceremonies and then wreath-laying activities at the Lakeside Memorial Lawn Cemetery and the Mormon Island Relocation Cemetery.

**PROCLAIMED** this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023

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Rosario Rodriguez, Mayor

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to facilitate double-sided printing.*