



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the Empire State joins in expressing pride in America's military heritage as reflected in meaningful observances held throughout our country which honor the men and women of our armed forces, and the "National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans" is an annual tradition that offers an opportunity to recognize those patriotic individuals whose selfless contributions helped preserve America's freedom and who, with the passing of the years, are now in poor health and require special care; and

Whereas, this observance coincides with Valentine's Day – a time of year when people show affection and appreciation for one another – and it also inspires the sentiments of caring and sharing that reflect the spirit of the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans; and

Whereas, a new generation of America's sons and daughters has again bravely answered the call to duty and is fighting in harm's way and, like those who served before them, they are committed to the principles of democracy; through their service and unwavering belief in our nation's ideals, all generations of veterans have earned the support and gratitude of our nation; and

Whereas, we who are beneficiaries of our veterans' courage and sacrifices can join in this special observance and express appreciation on this day through visits to hospitals, nursing homes, medical clinics and long-term care facilities, and by sharing conversation, sending greeting cards and notes of remembrance, and performing other acts of kindness which mean so much to the more than 98,000 veterans; and

Whereas, offering respect to those who once wore the uniforms of our military serves to remind our citizens – especially the youth of our nation – of the courage and sacrifices of countless men and women who willingly and resolutely fought to maintain America's cherished way of life; and

Whereas, it is fitting that all New Yorkers join in this day of National Salute and, therefore, people everywhere are encouraged to take time to visit veterans in VA medical centers, local hospitals, state veterans homes and other facilities to show affection and appreciation to our most noble and honorable citizens;

Now, Therefore, I, Eliot Spitzer, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim February 14, 2008 as

SALUTE TO HOSPITALIZED VETERANS DAY

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this sixth day
day of February in the year two thousand eight.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor