City of Colorado Springs, Colorado

## Proclamation

## MILITARY SPOUSE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT ZONES DAY May 22, 2018

**WHEREAS,** Colorado Springs flourishes with talent from our diverse and unique citizenry, including our many contributions and sacrifices from the vast number of military families who dwell here; and

wHEREAS, unemployment and underemployment continue to be a significant challenge for military spouses and military spouses are currently unemployed at a rate of 16%, four times their civilian counterparts; and

whereas, the lack of employment opportunities creates stress and influences a family's decision to remain in the military, impacting national security, readiness, retention, recruiting; and

whereas, America is no longer in a state of recession, but our military spouse population lives in a constant state of recession; and

whereas, over 67% of military spouses have left a job due to permanent change of station moves; and

wHEREAS, military spouses with degrees face the greatest challenge in nearly every measurable employment category. They face the highest rates of unemployment and the most difficulty finding meaningful work; and

WHEREAS, Hiring Our Heroes is launching Military Spouse Economic Empowerment Zones, intending to combat the negative economic impact military spouses are faced with; and

**NOW, THERFORE**, I, Richard Skorman, President of the Colorado Springs City Council, do hereby proclaim May 22, 2018 as

## **MILITARY SPOUSE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT ZONES DAY**

in the City of Colorado Springs.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Colorado Springs to be affixed this 22nd day of May 2018.

Richard Skorman, President Colorado Springs City Council