## PROCLAMATION AND CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

- WHEREAS, PVT. FREDERICK CHARLES ANDERSON, born in Boston, Massachusetts on March 24, 1842, was orphaned by age 8 and lived in a work house in south Boston called the House of Industry; and,
- WHEREAS, PVT. FREDERICK CHARLES ANDERSON was taken at age 14 by the Orphan Train, a controversial welfare program that transported orphaned, homeless, and abandoned children out of cities and to rural areas, where he was selected by Raynham farmer Stilman Wilbur and put to work on the farm; and,
- WHEREAS, PVT. FREDERICK CHARLES ANDERSON left the farm to enlist in the Union Army at age 19, joining Company A of the 18<sup>th</sup> Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry which participated in the Second Battle of Bull Run, the Battle of Antietam, the Battle of Fredericksburg, Battle of Chancellorsville, Battle of Gettysburg, and the fateful siege of Petersburg and the Battle of Globe Tavern; and,
- WHEREAS, PVT. FREDERICK CHARLES ANDERSON valiantly and in close combat captured the flag of the 27<sup>th</sup> South Carolina Infantry Regiment and its Flag Bearer during the Battle of Globe Tavern, effectively suspending their ability to communicate with the rest of the Confederate Army and turning the battle in the favor of the Union Army by retaking the Weldon Railroad, a brave act for which he was awarded a Medal of Honor on September 13, 1864 by General George Meade, Commander of the Army of the Potomac, during the first ever presentation of such a Medal for "conspicuous gallantry and good conduct displayed in capturing on the field of battle flags from the enemy"; and,
- WHEREAS, PVT. FREDERICK CHARLES ANDERSON continued military service until discharge on June 29, 1865, after which he began a family, settled in Somerset until his sudden death at age 40 of apoplexy, and was laid to rest in the Dighton Community Church cemetery; and,
- WHEREAS, PVT. FREDERICK CHARLES ANDERSON is a Civil War hero and one of the first ever Medal of Honor recipients whose family has generously donated his Medal to the Town of Dighton to preserve PVT. ANDERSON'S patriotism and dedication to his country, and to share his integral role in the Civil War.
- NOW, We, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Dighton, do hereby recognize the historical significance and valiance of PVT. FREDERICK CHARLES ANDERSON and do hereby proclaim the Town of Dighton as a Medal of Honor Community;

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Great Seal of the Town of Dighton to be affixed this 30<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.

## THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Brett R. Zografos, Ph.D

Clerk

Kenneth J. Pacheco

Member