

Proclamation

LEGEND DAY

MARCH 21, 2023

WHEREAS, after the fall of the Republic of Afghanistan in August 2021, Afghan-American U.S. Army Staff Sergeant (F.A.) "Legend" returned to Afghanistan after the last American soldier left Afghanistan to personally rescue U.S. citizens, U.S. lawful permanent residents, Afghan allies, and religious minorities; and

WHEREAS, despite being caught and tortured by the Taliban, Legend did not break and continued the rescue operations alone and unsupported, going into enemy territory 12 more times, including in August 2022, with no regard for his own personal safety, resulting in many lives saved; and

WHEREAS, Legend Group Foundation, a nonprofit organization, has rescued over 500 individuals and provided support to thousands more; and

WHEREAS, the present condition in Afghanistan is an unprecedented humanitarian crisis in which the United Nations estimates 22 million Afghans are facing acute starvation; and

WHEREAS, Legend Group Foundation provides food, physical and mental health care and emergency medical treatment, including prenatal care and child deliveries to Afghans and Americans in hiding from Taliban persecution; and

WHEREAS, Legend Group Foundation now provides schooling for vulnerable girls who are banned by the Taliban from attending school; and

WHEREAS, due to the ongoing catastrophe, human trafficking and the sexual slavery of both girls and boys are growing, with families becoming even more desperate; and

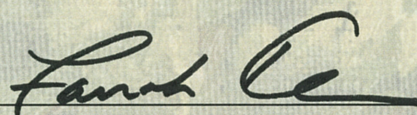
WHEREAS, Legend Group Foundation collaborates with the United States Congress and elected officials to conduct special operations, providing much needed support to save the lives of American citizens, U.S. lawful permanent residents, and Afghan allies; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the American veteran community supports the desire for a free and democratic Afghanistan wherein human rights are celebrated, and Afghans have freedom of speech, religion, assembly and the ability to vote for their leaders; and

WHEREAS, with the support of the elected officials of the City of Irvine, hundreds of Afghan refugees have settled in and around Irvine as our City welcomes new immigrants, showing our support for Afghanistan, and honoring America's promise to the Afghan people; and

WHEREAS, with the support of volunteers from the City of Irvine, Legend Group Foundation continues to give hope and safety to the freedom loving people of Afghanistan.

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Irvine **DOES HEREBY PROCLAIM** March 21, 2023, as "**LEGEND DAY**" and encourages residents to participate in caring for others, providing hope to those in need, and #BeLegend.



FARRAH N. KHAN
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF IRVINE
MARCH 28, 2023

