

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF)
SANTA BARBARA DECLARING SUPPORT)
FOR *GET CONNECTED!*) RESOLUTION No. _____

WHEREAS, closing the Digital Divide is vital to the economic prosperity and quality of life for residents in the County of Santa Barbara and throughout California.

WHEREAS, the County finds and declares that high-speed Internet access—referred to generically as “broadband” and including both wireline and wireless technologies—is essential 21st Century infrastructure in a digital world and global economy.

WHEREAS, the County recognizes that California is home to a wellspring of innovation that has given rise to the evolution of broadband and other information technologies, however Californians’ adoption and use of broadband technology is only approximately equivalent to the national average.

WHEREAS, the County acknowledges that 38% of all Californians, 40% of low-income households are not connected to the Internet with broadband, leaving more than 14 million Californians without high-speed Internet access at home.

WHEREAS, the County is committed to helping families and children be healthy, productive and self-sufficient and realizes that the use of broadband can save both time and money for residents while helping them bridge the economic divide.

WHEREAS, the County is committed to helping students obtain the highest-quality education possible incorporating digital literacy and understands that high-speed Internet connectivity and the availability of computing devices both at school and at home are critical teaching and learning tools for academic achievement.

WHEREAS, the County is committed to reducing its carbon footprint and recognizes that broadband is a strategic “green” technology that decreases greenhouse gas emissions and dependence on foreign oil by enabling e-government and the provision of more services online.

WHEREAS, the County is committed to Digital Inclusion and increasing citizen participation in the public process through expanded engagement using broadband.

WHEREAS, the County welcomes the opportunity to partner with the California Emerging Technology Fund along with the Governor, Legislature, other local governments, civic leaders, community organizations, employers, labor representatives, educators, and policymakers to encourage adoption of broadband technology.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County hereby joins with the California Emerging Technology Fund in launching and promoting ***Get Connected!***—a public awareness program to close the Digital Divide—and declares 2011 as the target year for all residents, businesses and community organizations to ***Get Connected!***

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors directs that appropriate policies promoting and supporting the deployment and adoption of broadband be promulgated and incorporated into the General Plan and other appropriate land use and economic development plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors directs County departments to determine how to optimize the use of broadband technology to inform and engage residents to increase citizen participation in the public processes of governance and expand Digital Inclusion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara authorize the use of their names as champions of ***Get Connected!*** on the websites of the California Emerging Technology Fund (www.CETFund.org and www.GetConnectedToday.com) and in printed materials pertaining to ***Get Connected!***

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this _____ day of _____ 2011, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:
CHANDRA L. WALLAR
CLERK OF THE BOARD

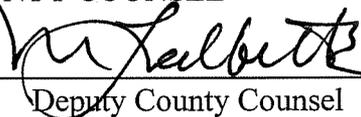
By: _____
Deputy

ACCEPTED AND AGREED
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

By: _____
Joni Gray, Chair
Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DENNIS A MARSHALL
COUNTY COUNSEL

By:  _____
Deputy County Counsel

APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING:

ROBERT W. GEIS
AUDITOR CONTROLLER

By:  _____
Deputy