Resolution Proclaiming
The Month of August 2007 as
Breastfeeding Month

WHEREAS, breastfeeding is optimal nutrition and the perfect life sustaining food for babies, and has a positive impact on the health and well-being of both the baby and the mother which lasts far beyond infancy; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding in the first hour or so after birth has been linked to positive health outcomes, including immediate protection from bacteria and viruses; and

WHEREAS, the simple intervention of breastfeeding in the first hour of life could have a significant impact on infant mortality rates worldwide; and

WHEREAS, babies are born ready to connect with their family using their five senses to learn about their world; and

WHEREAS, keeping mothers and babies together during the first hour or two fosters the beginnings of this close bond and helps get breastfeeding off to a good start; and

WHEREAS, communities have a vested interest and International Board Certified Lactation Consultants and other breastfeeding counselors and educators have an important role to play in protecting this environment into which we welcome the newborn baby; and

WHEREAS, <u>World Breastfeeding Month</u> is a special time set aside to remind us of the importance of breastfeeding for the health of all babies throughout the world with the theme for 2007, "<u>Breastfeeding: The 1st Hour – Welcome Baby Softly</u>";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors does observe the month of August 2007 as Breastfeeding Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this twentieth of August 2007, by a unanimous vote of all members present.