

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING  
FEBURARY 2016 AS NATIONAL  
CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH**

**WHEREAS, tooth decay is the most common illness affecting U.S. children today that can be prevented or improved with proper identification, preventative education and treatment; and**

**WHEREAS, untreated dental disease in children can lead to poor academic performance and behavior problems because of the pain, as well as problems with chewing or speaking, and reduced self-esteem. If dental disease is not treated early, it can result in the need for more serious and expensive intervention later; and**

**WHEREAS, State Preschool Dental Screenings compared untreated dental disease in 2014-15 to that in 2009-10 and the results showed: Santa Maria had 20% in 2014-15 compared to 50% in 2009-10; Lompoc had 39% compared to 50%; Goleta/Isla Vista had 28% compared to 43%; and Santa Barbara had 38% compared to 33%; and**

**WHEREAS, in 2014-15, thirteen Child Health & Disability Prevention Program Pediatricians in North County are now treating children with fluoride varnish, compared to two Pediatricians in South County; and**

**WHEREAS, Public Health Department's Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Maternal Child & Adolescent Health (MCAH) Programs offered preventative oral health education to 7,200 families in 2015 and the Santa Barbara County Office of Education's Health Linkages Program offered oral health education to 4,000 families with preschool children.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County does hereby observe the month of February 2016 as National Children's Oral Health Awareness Month, to facilitate increased awareness, education, prevention and treatment of Childhood Oral Health Disease throughout the County.**

**PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 2nd day of February 2016, by a unanimous vote of all members present.**