



# COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN**

*WHEREAS, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women ("CEDAW") was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1979; and*

*WHEREAS, the spirit of CEDAW is rooted in the goals of the United Nations to affirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of women and men and as CEDAW provides a comprehensive framework for challenging the various forces that have created and sustained discrimination based upon sex; and*

*WHEREAS, the United States is the only industrialized nation to not yet ratify CEDAW and many cities, including the City of Santa Barbara, have called for ratification of CEDAW by the United States Congress; and*

*WHEREAS, 163 countries, representing over three-fourths of the world, have now ratified or acceded to CEDAW; and*

*WHEREAS, CEDAW, also called the International Bill of Rights for Women, obligates those countries which have ratified or accede to it to take appropriate measures to ensure the full development and advancement of women in all spheres - including political, educational, employment, health care, economic, social, legal marriage and family relations - as well as to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of women and men to eliminate prejudice as well as customs and practices that are based on the idea of the inferiority or superiority of either sex; and*

*WHEREAS, adherence to the principles of CEDAW on the local level will promote equal access to and equity in health care, economic development, educational opportunities, and employment for women, and will also address the continuing and critical problem of violence against women; and*

*WHEREAS, municipal governments have an appropriate and legitimate role in affirming the importance of international law in their own communities as universal norms and to serve as guides for public policy.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors affirms its support of the United States' ratification or accession to CEDAW.**

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 6th day of November 2018.



**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor - 1st District

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Supervisor - 2nd District

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Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 5th District