



# COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOAL OF HEALTH INSURANCE FOR ALL CHILDREN IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY AND CALIFORNIA

## CALIFORNIA

*WHEREAS, providing comprehensive health coverage for every child in California should be a top priority of state and federal lawmakers; and*

*WHEREAS, providing every child with health insurance is a very real and achievable goal, with more than 90% of California's 10 million children already insured and over half of the remaining 763,000 uninsured children in California qualifying for existing public programs including Healthy Families and Medi-Cal, for a total cost of approximately \$330 million annually; and*

*WHEREAS, health insurance for all children benefits our entire community by preventing the spreading of disease and illness through enhanced preventive care including immunizations and basic check-ups and addressing problems before they become serious, helping to reduce costs for all healthcare consumers; and*

*WHEREAS, many hard-working families make too much money to qualify for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families, but not enough to pay for health insurance for their children, with 71% of uninsured children living in families where the head of household works full time all year; and*

*WHEREAS, all Californians pay for the cost of caring for uninsured children who must receive care in the emergency rooms at an average cost of \$435 per visit compared to less than \$100 per month per child that would be needed to insure all of California's children; and*

*WHEREAS, in addressing this serious public health issue, Santa Barbara County, with the second highest rate per capita of uninsured children in California, is working with a diverse coalition of health care providers, business groups, teachers, parents, faith-based organizations, labor, local government and children's advocates, to make covering all children a priority.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County expresses strong support for the goal of providing comprehensive health coverage to all California children.

*Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2007 by a unanimous vote of all members present.*



ATTEST:

*[Signature]*  
Clerk of the Board

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 1st District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 2nd District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 3rd District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 4th District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 5th District