



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION HONORING SUPERVISOR DAS WILLIAMS FOR HIS DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, Supervisor Das Williams has served the people of Santa Barbara County for more than 20 years, from the Santa Barbara City Council to the California State Assembly, to two terms representing the First District on the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, in his fervency to serve the public, it would not be unheard of for our freegan colleague, Das, to be seen hitching a ride to a Board of Supervisors' meeting from a freeway on-ramp; scrounging for a tie or other articles of clothing to borrow before a meeting; or giving out his personal cell phone number, live on TV to constituents in need during a disaster; and

WHEREAS, Das is a crusader for clean energy. He played a pivotal role in the County's decision to join 3CE Community Choice Energy, championed projects like the County's electric vehicle fleet, Climate Action Plan, and the Strauss Wind Energy Project – the first coastal wind farm in California, and he is an outspoken advocate for the realization of utility-scale solar in our County; and

WHEREAS, Das consistently prioritized supporting union work and fair wages, championing County workers' needs ahead of those in management and ensuring that those who serve the community most directly are recognized and valued; and

WHEREAS, Das is a servant leader and has demonstrated profound compassion, hospitality, and love for our community's most vulnerable. He has supported transformational housing projects like Dignity Moves, and also has the humility to participate in the annual washing of the feet of our homeless friends and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Das has been a steadfast supporter of tenants' rights, working to protect renters from unfair practices and advancing protections; and

WHEREAS, Das has continually sought to bring diverse groups together, exemplified by his partnership in the historic Camp 4 agreement with the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians; and

WHEREAS, Das recognizes the importance of opportunities for children and has prioritized increased funding for our libraries and increased the number of accredited childcare spaces in our County; and

WHEREAS, Das understood the critical need for fairness in governance and played an essential role in creating the Citizens Redistricting Commission, ensuring the voice of the people is truly reflected in the boundaries that define our communities; and

WHEREAS, Das has been a fierce advocate for the sustainability of the Cuyama Valley, fighting to protect its critically over-drafted groundwater basin; and

WHEREAS, Das showed leadership and resiliency through many disasters, including the Thomas Fire and 1/9 Debris Flow that devastated the residents of the First District and then oversaw the construction of the Randall Road Debris Basin, a major Public Works endeavor; and

WHEREAS, Das has shown a unique capacity to stand for what he believes is best for the whole of Santa Barbara County, even when it is politically challenging and even when he has faced personal or political costs for standing firm in his principles; and

WHEREAS, Das is known for his profound belief in the capacity for redemption in everyone, be they wicked or righteous, and for leading with a heart that holds space for the complexities of human nature, extending respect and hope to all; and

WHEREAS, Das' dedication to the community and the underserved can, at times, come off as preachingly righteous, it's truly a testament to his authenticity, tenacity, and steadfastness in uplifting the marginalized.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED AND RESOLVED, that this Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes and commends, our colleague, Supervisor Das Williams, for his two decades of public service and dedication to improving the lives of all residents, his tireless commitment to the values that define this community, and his indomitable spirit that has helped shape the future of Santa Barbara County.

Passed and adopted, by this Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 17th of December, 2024 by unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST: Maria Iniguez
Clerk of the Board

Das Williams
Supervisor - 1st District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 2nd District

Joan Heutner
Supervisor - 3rd District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 4th District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 5th District