

RESOLUTION NO. 25-1

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY
IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County is proudly home to a diverse and vibrant Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer plus (LGBTQ+) community. Santa Barbara County believes that the physical safety and emotional well-being of all residents is critical to providing for and protecting our quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the County acknowledges that recent and potential threats to the rights and protections of LGBTQ+ individuals demand unequivocal and proactive reaffirmation of our values of inclusivity, equity, and justice for all; and

WHEREAS, hateful, discriminatory, and divisive language - especially when perpetuated by political leaders or individuals in positions of influence - must be condemned, as silence only enables harm and marginalization; and

WHEREAS, The District Attorney's office respects the inherent right of everyone to be free from violence and supports efforts to make sure that the hard-fought rights of LGBTQ+ community members remain intact in California. The Department of Behavioral Wellness provides comprehensive support for the LGBTQ+ community through targeted outreach and programs alongside providers like Casa Pacifica's Suicide Prevention for Students PEI Program, the YouthWell Youth Advisory Board, and regional Wellness Centers; and

WHEREAS, the County is committed to fostering partnerships with local organizations, advocates, and allies to advance policies and programs that promote the health, safety, and well-being of LGBTQ+ individuals, including The Pacific Pride Foundation, House of Pride and Equality, Santa Barbara Transgender Advocacy Network, PFLAG Santa Barbara, Planned Parenthood of California Central Coast, the UCSB Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity, and Santa Barbara City College's Pride Virtual Center; and

WHEREAS, as the county government, we reaffirm our unwavering support for the LGBTQ+ community and continually work to create a positive culture where every person is respected and valued and as a board, we invite the public and those committed to supporting our community and work collaboratively for a more cohesive and compassionate Santa Barbara County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that as a county we will continue to serve and respect people of all orientations, and we will model a culture of compassion for all.

Passed and adopted, by this Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 7th Day of January, 2025 by unanimous vote of all members present.