

RESOLUTION CELEBRATING LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH 2024
IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County is home to a diverse and vibrant Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer plus (LGBTQ+) community. Each June, the County of Santa Barbara honors the significant contributions, progress, and culture the LGBTQ+ community and their allies bring to enhance our region – that we all may celebrate in Pride; and

WHEREAS, Pride month was catalyzed by the Stonewall Uprising in New York City on June 28th – July 3rd, 1969, creating a movement for LGBTQ+ civil rights, equality, and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ individuals have risen above the challenges of their existence and equal rights, including: the denial of the right to marry, discrimination in employment and housing, the inadequate response to the AIDS epidemic, the lack of protection from hate crimes, and marginalization in media and society; and

WHEREAS, while LGBTQ+ Californians are now protected from many of these issues, challenges still remain, especially for: LGBTQ+ of all ages including LGBTQ+ elders, transgender and gender non-conforming community members, and LGBTQ+ people of color; and the County of Santa Barbara stands against all forms of LGBTQ+ discrimination and hate. The County of Santa Barbara wants all LGBTQ+ people to know that they are valued members of our community; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ people have contributed greatly to Santa Barbara County, enhancing our community's culture and serving in influential roles in the government, business, arts, and philanthropic sectors; and

WHEREAS, for decades, LGBTQ+ community members have formed advocacy and support organizations to enhance the quality of life of LGBTQ+ Santa Barbara County residents, including: the Pacific Pride Foundation, House of Pride and Equality, Santa Barbara Transgender Advocacy Network, PFLAG Santa Barbara, Pride and Joy Santa Barbara, Planned Parenthood of California Central Coast, and the UCSB Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity; and

WHEREAS, the month of June is a time for reflection, celebration, and renewed hope for LGBTQ+ people and everyone in our community. The County of Santa Barbara takes this opportunity to provide awareness, support, and advocacy for the LGBTQ+ community, and is an additional opportunity to engage in dialogue to strengthen community, build acceptance, and advance equal rights; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors declares the month of June 2024 to be LGBTQ+ Pride Month in Santa Barbara County; and that this Board encourages all community members to commit to being good allies to members of our LGBTQ+ community.

Passed and adopted on this 4th day of June 2024, by a majority vote.