

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING
FEBURARY 2017 AS NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH**

WHEREAS, tooth decay is the most common illness affecting U.S. children today that can be prevented or improved with proper identification, preventative education and treatment; and

WHEREAS, untreated dental disease in children can lead to poor academic performance and behavior problems due to pain, problems with chewing or speaking, and reduced self-esteem. If dental disease is not treated early, it can result in the need for more serious and expensive intervention later; and

WHEREAS, State Preschool Dental Screenings compared untreated dental disease in 2016-17 to that in 2009-10 and the results showed: Santa Maria had 21% in 2016-17 compared to 50% in 2009-10; Lompoc had 27% compared to 50%; Goleta/Isla Vista had 29% compared to 43%; and Santa Barbara had 49% compared to 33%; and

WHEREAS, in 2016-17, thirteen Child Health & Disability Prevention Program Pediatricians in North County are now treating children with fluoride varnish, compared to one Pediatrician in South County and two in Mid County; and

WHEREAS, Public Health Department's Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Maternal Child & Adolescent Health (MCAH) Programs offered preventative oral health education to 11,939 children in 2016 and the Santa Barbara County Office of Education's Health Linkages Program offered oral health education to 4,000 families with preschool children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County does hereby observe the month of February 2017 as National Children's Oral Health Awareness Month, to facilitate increased awareness, education, prevention and treatment of Childhood Oral Health Disease throughout the County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 7th day of February 2017, by a unanimous vote of all members present.