



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2008 AS UNDERAGE DRINKING AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, alcohol is a factor in the leading cause of death among persons ages 10-24: motor vehicle crashes, unintentional injuries, homicide and suicide; and

WHEREAS, approximately 9.7 million current drinkers in the United States are between the ages of 12-20; and

WHEREAS, young people begin drinking, on average, at 13.1 years of age and alcohol is the most frequently used drug by high-school seniors; and

WHEREAS, young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21; and

WHEREAS, alcohol abuse is linked to as many as two-thirds of all sexual assaults and date rapes of teens and college students and is a major factor in unprotected sex among youth, increasing their risk of contracting HIV or other transmitted diseases; and

WHEREAS, Santa Maria Valley youth report that they have been very drunk or sick after drinking 7th grade 7%, 9th grade 21% and 11th grade 41%; and

WHEREAS, Santa Maria Valley youth report they have had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours 7th grade 7%, 9th grade 29% and 11th grade 38%; and

WHEREAS, Santa Maria Valley youth report driving when they have been drinking alcohol or ridden in a car driven by a friend who had been drinking in the 9th grade 9% and in the 11th grade 11%.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors, County of Santa Barbara, State of California, proclaim May 2008 as "Underage Drinking Awareness Month" in Santa Barbara County and calls upon all citizens, parents, youth, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and workplaces, hospitals and schools to support the efforts of Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley "for the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse" that will prevent underage drinking in our community. Passed and adopted this 13th day of May 2008.



ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

[Signature]
Supervisor - 1st District

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Supervisor - 2nd District

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Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 5th District