

## **COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2022 AS DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

## **CALIFORNIA**

WHEREAS, dyslexia is defined as an unexpected difficulty in reading for an individual who has the intelligence to be a much better reader and is most commonly caused by a difficulty in phonological processing (the appreciation of the individual sounds of spoken language), which affects the ability of an individual to read, write, spell, and, often, the ability to learn a second language; and

WHEREAS, dyslexia is the most common learning difference that affects 80 to 90 percent of all individuals with a learning difference and is persistent and highly prevalent, affecting as many as 1 out of every 5 individuals; and

WHEREAS, when dyslexia is not identified, far too many students experience unnecessary struggles in school, which has long-term consequences, including academic difficulties, poor self-esteem, and a wide range of negative outcomes for individuals and our communities;

WHEREAS, early screening for and early diagnosis of dyslexia is critical for ensuring that individuals with dyslexia receive focused, evidence-based intervention that leads to fluent reading, the promotion of self-awareness and self-empowerment, and the provision of necessary accommodations that ensure success in school and life; and

WHEREAS, Senator Monique Limón has, for many years, shown passion for learning more about dyslexia and supporting greater awareness, starting back to her days as a trustee for the Santa Barbara Unified School District, where she showed leadership and compassion by helping lead the district's early attempts to address dyslexia positively; and

WHEREAS, Senator Limón has distinguished herself by seeking expert help for constituents whose children experienced reading difficulties and has continuously worked to address the needs of dyslexic students in Sacramento as an Assemblymember and now in her current role, State Senator; and

WHEREAS, she recently co-authored SB 237, a bold effort to ensure students at risk of dyslexia would be screened, identified, and adequately accommodated in California's public schools. SB 237 passed unanimously in the Senate but was stalled in the Assembly, generating a great deal of interest and support from the dyslexia community throughout California; and

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Barbara and its residents appreciate Senator Monique Limón for her leadership, initiative, and passion in addressing dyslexia at the state level and continuing to raise awareness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT, AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors declares October 2022 as Dyslexia Awareness Month in Santa Barbara County and thanks Senator Limón for her work.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 18th day of October 2022 by a unanimous vote of all members present.

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ATTEST: Monn Pregisar

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Supervisor - 2nd District

Supervisor - 3rd District

Supervisor - 4th District

Supervisor - 5th District