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**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL 2025 AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH
IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, April is nationally recognized as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness about sexual violence and supporting survivors; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 theme, "Together We Act, United We Change," emphasizes the collective responsibility to address and prevent sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, Denim Day, observed on April 30th, serves as a day of action to stand in solidarity with survivors and challenge victim-blaming attitudes; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Barbara County, the North County Rape Crisis & Child Protection Center reports that, on average, eight children and young adults are trafficked each day, highlighting the urgent need for community awareness and intervention; and

WHEREAS, Standing Together to End Sexual Assault (STESA) provided confidential counseling and support services to 327 survivors and their loved ones during the 2023-2024 period, reflecting the ongoing need for survivor support in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office reported a significant decrease in serious crimes, including rape, in 2023, marking the lowest point in 10 years and demonstrating the positive impact of community efforts; and

WHEREAS, organizations such as the North County Rape Crisis & Child Protection Center, STESA, and UCSB's Campus Advocacy, Resources, and Education (CARE) program provide vital services to survivors and conduct educational initiatives to prevent sexual violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED THAT this Board of Supervisor of the County of Santa Barbara proclaims April 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and calls upon all residents, businesses, and organizations to actively participate in efforts to prevent sexual violence and support survivors.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 8th day of April, 2025, by unanimous vote of all members present.



Maria Iniguez
Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 1st District

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Supervisor - 2nd District

Joan Hartman
Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 5th District