

## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL 2009 AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

## **CALIFORNIA**

WHEREAS, April 2009 marks the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the State of California's fair housing law and the 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the federal civil rights law providing equal housing opportunities for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, State and Federal housing laws were enacted to ensure that a fair choice of housing was available to all individuals regardless of race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, sex, sexual preference, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, or any other arbitrary basis; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara Rental Housing Mediation Task Force has provided exceptional service to Santa Barbara County residents by providing information on landlord-tenant rights and responsibilities as well as offering mediation services to resolve rental housing disputes since 1976; and

WHEREAS, the Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County has provided to residents of Santa Barbara County remarkable assistance to attain fair housing opportunities through its advocacy, counseling, education, information, and representation for low income persons, seniors, and survivors of domestic violence countywide since 1975; and

WHEREAS, the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development is promoting fair housing laws this month through a national education project designed to help middle school students gain a better knowledge of Fair Housing rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors recognize April 2009 as Fair Housing Month in the County of Santa Barbara, and urges all members of the community to educate themselves on the rights and responsibilities relating to fair housing in celebration of this observance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 21st day of April, 2009 by a unanimous vote of all members present.

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