



# COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

## RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

*WHEREAS*, April 2021 marks the 62nd Anniversary of the Unruh Civil Rights Act and the California Fair Employment and Housing Act and the 53rd anniversary of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1968. This legislation prohibited discrimination based on race, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or disability in the sale, rental, and financing of housing; and

*WHEREAS*, in February 2021, with the passage of Executive Order 13988, the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development announced that it will administer and enforce the Fair Housing Act to also prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, based on significant housing studies which indicate that same-sex couples and transgender persons are more likely to experience prejudicial treatment when seeking rental housing; and

*WHEREAS*, in March 2021, California launched its first statewide anti-discrimination campaign: "Keep California Fair!" The campaign seeks to educate the community about laws enforced by the State Department of Fair Employment and Housing to protect California residents from illegal discrimination and harassment in Housing based on Race, Color, National Origin, Ancestry, Religion, Sex, Gender, Gender identity, Gender expression, Sexual orientation, Marital status, Military or veteran status, Familial Status, Source of Income, Disability (mental and physical), Genetic information, Age, Citizenship, Primary language, Immigration status; and

*WHEREAS*, community awareness, dialogue, mediation, and if necessary, enforcement of protections, has been supported by tireless efforts of the City of Santa Barbara Rental Housing Mediation Task Force, the Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County, the Santa Barbara County Property Managers Association, among other organizations which have provided education, training, mediation, and legal assistance to protect the rights of tenants and landlords, in order to maintain safe, affordable, clean and dignified housing; and

*WHEREAS*, the County remains dedicated to homelessness prevention efforts in addition to supporting persons experiencing homelessness— most recently by making available over \$13 million in rent and utility assistance to low-income renters as well as over \$2.8 million in State Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus Round II funds to homeless service providers for Rapid Re-Housing; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that this Board of Supervisors recognizes April 2021 as Fair Housing Month in the County of Santa Barbara, and urges all member 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 6th Day of April, 2021 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



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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

ATTEST:

*[Signature]*  
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Clerk of the Board