

*Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California*

Resolution No.

Adopt Resolution proclaiming September 2017 as _____)
Electromagnetic Sensitivities Awareness Month in Monterey County...)

WHEREAS, in 1998, the California Department of Health Services conducted a survey and found 3.2% of respondents had electromagnetic sensitivities, representing over 1 million Californians at that time; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, the U.S. Federal Access Board recognized the existence of electromagnetic sensitivities (EMS) and that EMS can be qualified as disabling, and the U.S Social Security Administration has also recognized disability due to electromagnetic sensitivities; and

WHEREAS, EMS is an environmentally-caused functional impairment with disabling effects that include seizures, heart rhythm disturbances, heart pain, blackouts, migraines and headaches, severe tinnitus, insomnia, and other neurological problems which can be life threatening, and reduced exposure is the only reliable solution; and

WHEREAS, those with electromagnetic sensitivities report stigmatization and prejudice from private citizens and public officials with the EMS-disabled experiencing access barriers and difficulty in obtaining reasonable accommodations in both public and private services and places, which can result in isolation from the communities and public life, decreased access to medical care, essential services, and democratic processes; and

WHEREAS, the economic impacts of disability and injury fall onto local governments, causing increased social and medical service costs, with a concomitant loss of economic drivers and loss of tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, Monterey County supports the health and wellbeing of all residents, including vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Labor developed information on how to accommodate those people with EMS in the workplace, and California has developed Cleaner Air Room guidelines with a symbol that can be used to designate a room that includes lessened EMS exposure for qualified disabled users.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors do hereby declare September 2017 as **Electromagnetic Sensitivities (EMS) Awareness Month** in Monterey County and encourage engagement in interactive dialogue with those disabled by EMS to reduce stigma and increase understanding, inclusionary policies, and reasonable accommodations.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this XX day of September 2017, upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original resolution of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book ____ for the meeting on June 6, 2017.

Dated

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California
