

County of Monterey

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 25-080

Adopt a resolution declaring every March 31 as Farmworkers Appreciation Day and César Chávez Day in Monterey County and honoring the Center for Community Advocacy.....)

WHEREAS, Monterey County’s agricultural sector is among the most productive in the world. The total economic impacts of the agricultural production in Monterey County are estimated at almost 12 billion when allied businesses, employee paychecks, and value-added processing are tallied in Monterey County; and

WHEREAS, Monterey County’s agricultural production helps feed the nation and the rest of the world. Home to some of the richest farmlands in the United States, Monterey County is the largest producer of lettuce and a top producer of strawberries, broccoli, wine grapes and other fresh produce; and

WHEREAS, The inexhaustible efforts of thousands of hardworking and dedicated farmworkers have contributed greatly to the success of the agricultural industry and to Monterey County being known as the “Salad Bowl of the World”; and

WHEREAS, Farmworkers in Monterey County contribute significantly to our agricultural accomplishments by toiling in fields through harsh and extreme weather conditions and growing, harvesting, and preparing goods for markets and destinations in the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS, Farmworkers still dream of providing a better life for their children, but the reality of many having to move from crop to crop, a lack of documented immigration status and other barriers makes this dream hard to achieve; and

WHEREAS, César Chávez is one of the most significant civil and labor rights leaders in the history of our nation. César Chávez recognized that the greatest measure of a society is how it treats the people who help feed our nation; and

WHEREAS, In 2000, the Legislature passed and Governor Gray Davis signed into law Senate Bill 984 to create the first annual state holiday in the country on César Chávez’s birthday, March 31; and

WHEREAS, Center for Community Advocacy (CCA) was incorporated in 1989 and began providing services in 1990. Its mission is to help farmworkers and low-income families help themselves by training community leaders who advocate for improved conditions and opportunities in their communities. Since its inception, CCA has helped hundreds of farmworkers establish tenant committees throughout the Salinas and Pajaro Valleys; and

WHEREAS, Center for Community Advocacy provides education, orientation and legal support to farmworkers and other low-income working families who want to establish neighborhood committees that work to improve housing and health conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors, on behalf of all residents thereof, declare every March 31 as Farmworkers Appreciation Day and César Chávez Day in Monterey County and hereby recognizes the hard work and sacrifice that farmworkers go through to put food on the table of millions of Americans across our nation and to ensure a stable food supply. Our county expresses our sincerest thanks and appreciation to our farmworkers and their families for providing a bounty to California and our nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, hereby also honors the Center for Community Advocacy (CCA) for their ongoing efforts on behalf of farmworkers and other low-income working families of the Salinas and Pajaro Valleys to improve their housing, living conditions and opportunities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 18th day of March 2025

Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez

Vice Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew

Supervisor Luis A. Alejo

Supervisor Glenn Church

Supervisor Kate Daniels

