

County of Monterey

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 25-198

Adopt a resolution proclaiming the **Month, June 2025, as Elder Justice and Vulnerable Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month** in the County of Monterey, recognizing the United Nations' World Elder Abuse Awareness Day annually on June 15th.....)

WHEREAS, “abuse of an elder or a dependent adult” or “elder abuse” means any of the following: (1) Physical abuse, neglect, abandonment, isolation, abduction, or other treatment with resulting physical harm or pain or mental suffering; (2) The deprivation by a care custodian of goods or services that are necessary to avoid physical harm or mental suffering; and (3) Financial abuse from financial fraud and scams. All such acts are intentional or negligent and are premeditated by a caregiver or a trusted person; and

WHEREAS, elder abuse has become a public health, human rights, and social justice issue as the age distribution in the United States continues to shift dramatically, with the number of older adults increasing exponentially by 2030. In response to growing concerns about adult abuse, the **Elder Justice Act of 2010** was enacted to address **abuse, neglect**, and the **exploitation** of older adults. As of 2025, elder abuse remains an international crisis, and the public awareness and education of elder abuse issues should continue to be raised; and

WHEREAS, the collaboration of ombudsman advocates, social services, financial institutions, legal firms, law enforcement agencies, and other administrative entities alone are not enough to stop elder abuse. It requires the collective cooperation of all of us working together, as we age together, to demand a global, multifaceted response, one which focuses on protecting the rights of older persons and dependent adults. Laws and policies that shape available resources should be revisited to ensure equitable access; and

WHEREAS, the **United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing, the World Health Organization and its partners** are developing a global, multi-partner strategy to address the abuse of older people by 2030. This strategy will map global evidence of abuse and identify the underlying causes of abusive behavior. Raising awareness of elder abuse should be brought to the forefront, as investing in our aging and vulnerable communities, while ensuring sustainable and accountable resources, leads to healthy aging; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all its residents thereof, hereby joins the **County of Monterey Area Agency on Aging and the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council** in recognizing the month of **June 2025 as Elder Justice and Vulnerable Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month**.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 17th day of June 2025

Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez

Vice Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew

Supervisor Glenn Church

Supervisor Luis A. Alejo

Supervisor Kate Daniels

