

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

Resolution No

Adopt Resolution honoring Ruthie Watts as 2020 recipient of the Monterey Bahá'í Human Rights Award

WHEREAS, Ruthie Watts moved to the Monterey Peninsula in 1965 with her husband, William Watts, and their two children, daughter Melbra and son William Jr. and raised her family in Monterey County; and

WHEREAS, learning that the struggle for full political, civil, and social rights demanded fearlessness and relentless determination, in 1977 she attended her first meeting of the NAACP Monterey County branch and remains active in the Monterey County Branch of the NAACP; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 Ruthie Watts was honored with the NAACP Life Membership Award, the NAACP Western Area Unsung Hero Award, and the Monterey County Branch of the NAACP's President's Award; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 Ruthie Watts was honored with the African American and Civil Rights Champion Award by the NAACP CSUMB Student Chapter; and

WHEREAS, Ruthie Watts' life-long advocacy for civil rights and racial equality was born out of her experiences growing up in the small community of York, South Carolina at the height of Jim Crow segregation where Ruthie Watts endured the indignities of bigotry that were part of everyday life for African Americans living and working in York; and

WHEREAS, through her activism, Ruthie Watts has been a powerful, behind-the-scenes force for racial justice in all aspects of life for people of color in Monterey County, creating a legacy of service that spans more than five decades; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all residents thereof, honors Ruthie Watts, a 2020 recipient of the Monterey Bahá'í Human Rights Award and wishes her continued success, peace, and happiness in all of her future endeavors.