

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Resolution Proclaiming 2013 as “The Year of the Child”

Whereas, Monterey County is home to 111,000 children ages 17 and under, almost 27% of the County’s total population, from infants and toddlers to school-agers and teens; and

Whereas, these children are born curious, creative and capable and there is much that can be learned by valuing and respecting them.

Whereas, these children are also the future of our state, with our investment in our children of today representing our investment in the working people, community leaders, parents, problem solvers, and innovators of tomorrow; and

Whereas, it is therefore imperative that the elected officials, community leaders and policymakers of today prioritize Monterey County’s children and consider the impact of each decision they make on all of our children today, tomorrow, and in the future; and

Whereas, California voters approved Proposition 10 in 1998 investing First 5 California and 58 County First 5 Commissions, including First 5 Monterey County, with responsibility to lead communities in expanding early developmental and school readiness services and improving systems for children ages 0 to 5 and their families; and

Whereas, First 5 Monterey County, the Monterey County Child Care Planning Council, Monterey County Children's Council, California State Subsidized Child Care and Preschools, and local Head Start programs work in partnership with the county Boards of Supervisors as well as other public and non-profit agencies to address the needs of young children and their families; and

Whereas, Monterey County shares a dedication to the good health, social-emotional development, school readiness, and general well-being of our children, who cannot vote, lobby or advocate, and are dependent on the adults of today for their well-being; and

Whereas, the President of the California State Association of Counties has challenged his colleagues to ask “How are the children?” and to always consider what is best for the children and to continue focusing on the children until we can say with confidence, “All the children are well;”

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors joins the California State Association of Counties, elected officials across the state, and their many community partners in recognizing the critical importance of placing children at the core of our plans, at the heart of our purpose and at the top of every agenda as we proclaim 2013 as “The Year of the Child.”