

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

Resolution No. 13-289

Resolution recognizing **ImprovingBirth.org**)
and the Labor Day **Rally to Improve Birth**)
International movement to bring evidence-based)
care and promote respect for women and their)
decisions in childbirth.....))

WHEREAS, the mission of **ImprovingBirth.Org** is to bring evidence-based care and humanity to childbirth; and

WHEREAS, thousands of men, women and children, in over 160 cities in all 50 states – plus Japan and Australia, will gather peacefully to hold signs and distribute information about evidence-based birth practices and the need for humanity in our care on September 2, 2013 as part of an International “**Rally to Improve Birth;**” and

WHEREAS, Monterey County families are invited to participate in the **ImprovingBirth.org** movement by attending a Rally and Birth Fair at the Natividad Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, evidence-based care maternity care is based on the highest quality, most current medical evidence, most beneficial to mothers and babies (reducing incidences of injuries, complications, and death), with care tailored to the individual; and

WHEREAS, the Childbirth Connection Listening to Mothers III survey identified many concerns about care that is not supported by best evidence or best practice, including, a high rate of adjusting the due date at the end of pregnancy, large proportions of labor induction for non-medical reasons, considerable experience of care provider pressure to have major interventions and cross-survey trend of increasing pressure to have these interventions, more than two babies in five were not “skin-to-skin” with their mothers when the mothers first held them, much professional support for induction or cesarean when a fetus might be getting large, and evidence of a “cascade of intervention” with one intervention appearing to increase the likelihood of others; and

WHEREAS, the majority of women surveyed in the Childbirth Connection Listening to Mothers III survey could not correctly identify two facts about labor induction or cesarean and a majority identified unsafe gestational ages as the earliest safe time to deliver a baby, absent complications, yet despite these quality concerns 47% of those surveyed rated maternity care providers as “completely trustworthy” and an additional 33% as “very trustworthy;” and

WHEREAS, women can make safer, more informed decisions about their care and that of their babies when they are given full and accurate information about their care options, including the potential harms, benefits, and alternatives; and

WHEREAS, Natividad Medical Center is committed to providing evidence-based maternity care and recognized as the only hospital in Monterey County where women may choose vaginal birth after cesarean (VBAC); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, on behalf of all the citizens thereof, do hereby adopt this resolution recognizing **ImprovingBirth.org** and the Labor Day **Rally to Improve Birth** International movement to bring evidence-based care and promote respect for women and their decisions in childbirth.

PASSED AND ADOPTED upon motion of Supervisor Parker seconded by Supervisor Salinas and carried this 27th day of August 2013, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Armenta, Calcagno Salinas, Parker

NOES: None

ABSENT: Supervisor Potter

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 order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 76 for the meeting on August 27, 2013.

Dated: August 27, 2013
File Number: CR 13-092

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

By 
Deputy