

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

Resolution No.

Adopt 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.