

**Proclamation
of the
Board of Supervisors
County of Humboldt**

June 2022 as National Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month

WHEREAS, today there are more than 6 million Americans living with Alzheimer's disease, a figure that is expected to grow to as many as 13 million by 2050 if scientists don't develop a cure or an effective treatment, and

WHEREAS, 1 in 3 seniors dies with Alzheimer's or another dementia. It kills people more than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined. Between 2002 and 2019, deaths from heart disease have decreased 7.3% while deaths from Alzheimer's disease have increased 145%; and

WHEREAS, more than 11 million Americans provide unpaid care for people with Alzheimer's or other dementias. In 2021, these caregivers provided more than 16 billion hours of care valued at nearly \$272 billion; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is a local issue. Our friends and neighbors need access to support services and resources to lessen the disease's impacts. In Humboldt County, it is estimated that about 3,384 people currently live with Alzheimer's and related dementias. There are another 7,600 caregivers who are caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, COVID-19 contributed to a 17% increase in Alzheimer's and dementia deaths; and

WHEREAS, fewer than 1 in 5 Americans are familiar with mild cognitive impairment (MCI), which can be an early stage of Alzheimer's. 90% of physicians say it's important to diagnose MCI due to Alzheimer's, but over half say they are not fully comfortable making that diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, during June, the Alzheimer's Association invites Humboldt County residents to participate in The Longest Day® on June 21st. Held annually on the summer solstice, The Longest Day invites participants to fight the darkness of Alzheimer's through a fundraising activity of their choice or by wearing purple.

THEREFORE, We, the Board of Supervisors of Humboldt County, California, do hereby proclaim June Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month. The Supervisors thanks the Alzheimer's Association for providing services to people and families coping with dementia.

Dated: June 14, 2022



Virginia Bass

Virginia Bass, Chair