



Humboldt County Board of Supervisors **PROCLAMATION**

in honor of Older Americans Month

WHEREAS, it is time to *flip the script on aging* by transforming how society perceives, discusses, and approaches aging—challenging outdated stereotypes, dispelling misconceptions, and embracing the opportunities for purpose, exploration, connection, and continued engagement that aging brings; and

WHEREAS, the Area 1 Agency on Aging (A1AA) brings more than \$3 million in state and federal funding to Humboldt and Del Norte counties to support programs and services that promote independence, health, security, and choice for older adults and their families; and

WHEREAS, A1AA offers vital services including Enhanced Information and Assistance, the Volunteer Driver Program to access medical appointments, and Aging in Place services such as Fall Prevention, Homemaker assistance, and Northcoast Homeshare to provide housing support, safety, and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, A1AA promotes health and wellness through SAIL (Stay Active and Independent for Life) exercise classes and CalFresh Healthy Living nutrition and activity programs; and

WHEREAS, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program safeguards the rights and dignity of residents in skilled nursing, assisted living, and other long-term care settings by advocating for quality care and respectful treatment; and

WHEREAS, the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) provides unbiased, accurate information about Medicare and assistance in accessing medical resources; and

WHEREAS, the Aging and Disability Resource Connection—a partnership with Tri-County Independent Living and the North Coast Health Improvement and Information Network—works to streamline and coordinate services for older adults, people with disabilities, caregivers, and families; and

WHEREAS, A1AA also provides funding for local Meals on Wheels and congregate meal sites, legal assistance for older adults, and family caregiver support services; and

WHEREAS, any reduction in federal or state funding would jeopardize the health, safety, and independence of those served—putting them at greater risk of injury, hospitalization, isolation, institutionalization, and homelessness—outcomes that run counter to the spirit of *flipping the script* on aging.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors recognizes **May 2025 as Older Americans Month**, and calls upon the community to honor and uplift older adults, advocate for their needs, and join in celebrating this year's theme: **"Flipping the Script."**



Dated: May 6, 2025

Michelle Bushnell, Chair