



PROCLAMATION
OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

WHEREAS, the United Nations Assembly adopted The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in December 1948 and this marked the first attempt in human history to set down the minimum rights every person should enjoy; and

WHEREAS, in 2022 public awareness, a lack of civility among groups of people and individuals in their ability to discuss without anger or fear, topics of the day, even concerns about the ability to vote one's conscience; and

WHEREAS, our citizens strive to uphold and defend the right of free speech; and

WHEREAS, speech whether free or inhibited, is now strained by intolerant adversaries and from a multitude of pressures, including, but not limited to statements by family members, public officials, on social media, and in schools; and

WHEREAS, anger and hatred can go unchallenged in our daily lives and in our schools, which leads to bullying and fear-provoking actions, and

WHEREAS, the general public participates in retaliatory actions of hate and vile speech because they see no alternative; and

WHEREAS, that ultimately hate speech, intolerant language, bias and discrimination, have led to actions which are physically violent, emotionally intimidating, and in some cases cause physical harm. Such a transformation within our culture is now eroding, and will continue to further erode, the peace and tranquility our citizens expect and deserve, leading to a more violent community bringing harm to our citizens, young and old; and

WHEREAS, while the citizens of Humboldt County represent a small, mostly rural population center within the framework of our country, we must all act in ways big and small, to change the climate within our control; and

WHEREAS, that in December 2022, individuals, groups of people, agencies, departments, elected officials and public servants choose a different path, a path that acknowledges peace, harmony, and human rights for all. In doing so, we vow to engage hate at all levels possible during the year 2023. Human Rights and freedom from fear must exist for all people or they exist for no one.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that December 2022 is proclaimed Human Rights Awareness Month and throughout the coming year, we will advocate for special civic engagement to occur, for personal reflection to take place, for continued efforts to educate the public, and for a community effort to use kindness instead of hate, regardless of personal perceptions and political views. Furthermore, the primary goals of our society in Humboldt County are to encourage all citizens to educate themselves about The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to value the privileges and freedoms we enjoy in our diverse society, and to promote engagement in causes that promote the rights and welfare of all our citizens.

December 6, 2022

VIRGINIA BASS, Chair