

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 2023, public awareness and a lack of civility has grown amongst groups of people and individuals in their ability to discuss topics of the day without anger or fear; 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, 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 community expects and deserves; and

WHEREAS, while Humboldt County represents a small, mostly rural population within the framework of our country, we must all act in ways big and small, to change the climate within our control and strive to uphold and defend the right of free speech; and

WHEREAS, in December 2023, individuals, local organizations, 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 2024. Human Rights and freedom from fear must exist for all people or they exist for no one.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes **December 2023** as **HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS MONTH** and encourages all residents 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 members in our community, especially among our youth. During this time we 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.

December 12, 2023

STEVE MADRONE, Chair

