

County of Santa Cruz⁰⁰⁸⁷

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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JANET **K. BEAUTZ** FIRST DISTRICT WALTER J. SYMONS SECOND DISTRICT MARDI WORMHOUDT THIRD DISTRICT TONY CAMPOS FOURTH DISTRICT JEFF ALMQUIST FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 11/7/00

October 30, 2000

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS County of Santa Cruz 701 Ocean Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: RECOGNITION OF BILL OF RIGHTS DAY

Dear Members of the Board:

Attached is a letter from Rev. Dr. William C. Vannerus requesting that the Board take action to ensure the lasting recognition of December 15 as Bill of Rights Day. I believe that Board consideration of this request is wholly appropriate.

As we are all aware, the first ten Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America, known collectively as the Bill of Rights, were ratified on December 15, 1791, and limit and define the powers of government. The Bill of Rights recognizes, affirms and protects fundamental human and civil rights which countless millions of men and women serving in the Armed Forces of the United States have fought to protect. Therefore, I believe that it is fitting for the Board to take formal action to declare December 15, 2000, and every December 15 thereafter, as Bill of Rights Day.

Accordingly, I recommend that the Board take the following actions:

- Adopt the attached resolution declaring December 15, 2000, and every December 15 thereafter, as Bill of Rights Day in Santa Cruz County.
- 2. Direct the General Services Department to place copies of the Bill of Rights in the two public display cases

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS October 30, 2000 Page 2

at the County Government Center for the full month of December each year.

Sincerely,

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JANET K. BEAUTZ, Supervisor First District

JKB:ted Attachments

cc: Rev. Dr. William Vannerus General Services Department County Administrative Office

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO.

On the motion of Supervisor duly seconded by Supervisor the following resolution is adopted

DECLARING DECEMBER 15, 2000, AND EVERY DECEMBER 15 THEREAFTER, AS BILL OF RIGHTS DAY

WHEREAS, the first ten Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America, known collectively as the Bill of Rights, were ratified on December 15, 1791; and

WHEREAS, the Bill of Rights recognizes, affirms and protects fundamental human and civil rights for which persons of all races have struggled for thousands of years; and

WHEREAS, to preserve the rights and freedoms secured by the Bill of Rights, our Forefathers, and countless millions of men and women serving on police agencies and in the Armed Forces of the United States, have sacrificed, suffered and died; and

WHEREAS, the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Bill of Rights deserve perennial celebrations while the sacrifices made to protect the Bill of Rights deserve eternal remembrance; and

WHEREAS, in the County of Santa Cruz it is fitting that there be a formal observance of a special day commemorating the ratification of the Bill of Rights; and

WHEREAS, commemorating the Bill of Rights with a formal day of observance honors the fundamental rights that are enshrined in the Bill of Rights and further honors the sacrifices made to create and preserve these rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors do hereby declare December 15, 2000, and every December 15 thereafter, as Bill of Rights Day in Santa Cruz County and urge all citizens to reflect on the sacrifices which have been made to protect the liberties afforded in the Bill-of Rights.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Services Department is hereby directed to place copies of the Bill of Rights in the two public display cases at the County Government Center for the full month of December each year.

DECLARING DECEMBER 15, 2000, AND EVERY DECEMBER 15 THEREAFTER, AS BILL OF RIGHTS DAY Page 2

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this _____ day of , 2000, by the following vote:

AYES:SUPERVISORSNOES:SUPERVISORSABSENT:SUPERVISORSABSTAIN:SUPERVISORS

MARDI WORMHOUDT, Chair Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Clerk of said Board

Approved as to form:

10/31/00 Counsel County Rev. Dr. William C. Vannerus DISTRIBUTION: County Counsel General Services Department

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Rev. Dr. William C. Vannerus, 16 11 Branciforte Dr., Santa cruz, CA 95065 (\$3) 425-1945

Mrs. Jan Beautz, Supervisor, Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, 70 1 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

October 19, 2000

Re: Resolution Proclaiming December 15 as Bill of Rights Day.

Dear Supervisor Beautz,

It has come to my attention that Santa Cruz County does not have a Proclamation declaring December 15 as Bill of Rights Day.

The United States of America might never have existed without one thing: the Bill of Rights. The Bill of Rights limits the power of the government and protects the rights of the people. It was so important that several of the original 13 states would not ratify the Constitution without it.

Nearly everything that makes an American proud to be one comes **from** the Bill of Rights. Freedoms to speak, print, read, assemble, pray, petition the government, keep and bear arms. Protection from unreasonable arrests and searches, excessive bail, double jeopardy, coerced confessions, cruel and unusual punishment. Rights to due process, jury trials, counsel, and to present defense witnesses. These are the freedoms and rights that define America.

Surprisingly, Americans do not celebrate the foundation of our political freedom, the Bill of Rights -- but we should. After all, the Bill of Rights is part of our Constitution, it is what our military people pledge to serve and die for. It is uniquely American. People on the political left, center, and right can all rally around the Bill of Rights because it expresses our shared basic values.

On December 15, 1791, the Bill of Rights was ratified and has since protected American citizens for 206 years. We should celebrate December 15 every year. By officially designating December 15 as Bill of Rights Day, we would be reminding our fellow citizens and younger generations of our heritage. Bill of Rights Day would declare America's commitment to civil and human rights to the world. The special day would annually remind politicians, bureaucrats, prosecutors, and judges that their authority and power are limited -- that the government serves us Americans, it does not rule us.

December 15, Bill of Rights Day, reminds us of the liberty we have and what it costs to keep it. By celebrating Bill of Rights Day every year, perhaps we shall never forget.

Enclosed are copies of the State of California's and the City of Santa Cruz's Proclamations each having declared every December 15 as Bill of Rights Day. I urge the Board of Supervisors to adopt the enclosed Resolution declaring December 15, 2000 as Bill of Rights Page 2 October 19,2000 Bill of Rights Res.

Day and every December 15 thereafter.

I have also enclosed a list of many names of people throughout Santa Cruz county who enthusiastically support this resolution and look forward to its adoption. I thank you for this opportunity and look forward to your response.

Viam Mannerus Yours Sincerely,

^{*} Rev. Dr. William C. Vannerus

Linden Anderson Mary Whitely Peter A. McWorton Pat Morrissey C-rant Wrathall. Jr. Brad Bennett Ronald Nelson John Hodges Mildred McCabe John McCabe Leonard a. **DeBord** Carl Worden **Russell Lowery** Carole Kettman Jack Ward Jeff Denhem Michael Abbott John A. Teunis John C. Locatelli Robert William Niebling **Conzalo** Roig Joseph E Weigand Mike Medeiros Keith Kobow Mike Swift Barbara Teunis **Daniel Beckett** Vernon D. Conrad Grace E. Vannerus Peter D. Vannerus

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Rebecca Anderson Ruth McWorton **Richard Winett** James Schell Doris A. Schell Neil Whitty Deanna Young Vonda Hodges Kathy McCabe **Rick McFarland** John M. Maraldo **Charles** Carter Charles Lowrance Lee Corum **Dottie** Ward Steve Meyer Jack B. Wilson Kenneth Teunis Karen M. Grant Bonnie Herdocia Dean McCollom Dave Zeller Ed Shaklefond Patricia Baca Charles J. Gluck Thomas Ouinn Christine Zenovitch Scotty Mitchell William J. Vannerus, Jr. Steve J. Vannerus

Albert G. Robertson David McWorton Sharon Winett Tom W. Barrington Harry Rogers Karin Whitty Mike Satron Jerome McCabe Ruth McCabe Beth McFarland Glenn Kramer Charlaine Carter Michael H. Ostrander Don Keathley Gordon Sachtjen Lira May Cafe'-Abbot Homer S. Green **David Smelt** Craig Morgan Charles E. Coffee Joan L. Miller Michael Cruz Todd Spellman Giles Plew Joe Alba Carl Chase **Robert Zenovitch** Karen Mitchell Paul E. Vannerus



Mayor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS THE FIRST TEN AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION ARE KNOWN COLLECTIVELY AS THE BILL OF RIGHTS AND WERE RATIFIED ON DECEMBER 15, 1791; and
- WHEREAS THE BILL OF RIGHTS LIMITS AND DEFINES THE POWERS OF GOVERNMENT; and
- WHEREAS THE BILL OF RIGHTS ALSO RECOGNIZES, AFFIRMS AND PROTECTS FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS FOR WHICH PERSONS OF ALL RACES HAVE STRUGGLED FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS; and
- WHEREAS TO PRESERVE THE RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS SECURED BY THE BILL OF RIGHTS, OUR FOREFATHERS, AND HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF MEN AND WOMEN SERVING ON THE POLICE AGENCIES AND ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES, HAVE SACRIFICED, SUFFERED AND DIED; and
- WHEREAS SEVERAL OF THE ORIGINAL STATES REFUSED TO RATIFY THE CONSTITUTION WITHOUT AN EXPRESSED BILL OF RIGHTS: and
- WHEREAS THE RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS GUARANTEED BY THE BILL OF RIGHTS DESERVE PERENNIAL CELEBRATIONS; THE SACRIFICES MADE TO PROTECT THE BILL OF RIGHTS DESERVE ETERNAL REMEMBRANCE; and
- WHEREAS TO COMMEMORATE THE BILL OF RIGHTS WITH A SPECIAL DAY WOULD HONOR THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS IT ENSHRINES AND THE SACRIFICES MADE TO CREATE AND PRESERVE THESE RIGHTS AND PROCLAIM THESE RIGHTS TO THE CITIZENS OF THIS TOWN, NATION AND WORLD:
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, KATHERINE BEIERS, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SANTA **CRUZ**, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM DECEMBER 15, 1999 AS "BILL OF RIGHTS DAY" IN THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ AND ENCOURAGE ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY TO OBSERVE THIS DAY IN A MANNER THAT BRINGS TO MIND THE MEANING AND IMPORTANCE OF EACH OF THE TEN ARTICLES CONTAINED IN THAT BILL.



XX W

KATHERINE BEIERS, MAYOR



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BILL OF RIGHTS DAY PROCLAMATION IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

BILL NUMBER: SCR 82 CHAPTERED BILL TEXT RESOLUTION CHAPTER 115 FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE AUGUST 10, 1998 ADOPTED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 6, 1998 ADOPTED IN SENATE MAY 28, 1998 AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 28, 1998 INTRODUCED BY Senator Johannessen MARCH 26, 1998

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 82--Relative to the Bill of Rights of the United States

Constitution.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST SCR 82, Johannessen. Bill of Rights Day.

This measure would declare December 15, 1998, and every December 15 thereafter, as Bill

of Rights Day, encourage all governmental bodies in the state to observe the day in a manner that brings to mind its meaning and importance, and declare that the Bill of Rights

should be read in all public schools, government meetings, and courtrooms on that date

and shall be read aloud, in its entirety, on the first legislative session day following that

date in both houses of the Legislature.

WHEREAS, The first 10 amendments to the United States Constitution are referred to

as

the Bill of Rights, which limit and define the powers of government; and

WHEREAS, Several of the original states refused to ratify the Constitution without an express Bill of Rights; and

WHEREAS, The Bill of Rights recognizes, affirms, and protects fundamental human and

civil rights for which persons of all races have struggled for thousands of years; and

WHEREAS, The Bill of Rights secures our freedom to speak, print, read, assemble, pray,

petition the government, and keep and bear arms; protects us from unreasonable arrests,

searches, excessive bail, double jeopardy, coerced confessions, and cruel and unusual punishment; and secures our rights to due process, jury trials, and counsel, and to present defense witnesses; and

WHEREAS, The Bill of Rights protects our sovereign state from excesses of the federal

government; and

WHEREAS, The Bill of Rights is integral to the American way of life, and America's civic

holidays, President's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Memorial Day,

and Thanksgiving, all remind us of the special contributions and sacrifices made by **our**

forefathers and leaders to preserve, protect, and extend our freedoms; and

WHEREAS, The Bill of Rights energizes our military defense because American servicemen and women swear an oath to preserve and defend the United States Constitution, which includes the Bill of Rights; when American military personnel

fight

and die for our country, they do so to protect our rights and freedoms under the Bill of Rights; and

WHEREAS, A Bill of Rights Day would help prevent the **Bill** of Rights from being otherwise

forgotten, and since many Americans do not know their Bill of Rights, this special day would encourage our schools to instruct children about this aspect of our American heritage; and

WHEREAS, A Bill of Rights Day would declare America's commitment to fundamental

human rights to the whole world; and

WHEREAS, Just as celebrating religious holidays reminds Americans of their religious

beliefs and traditions, a Bill of Rights Day annually would remind America of the manner in

which its history and philosophy have secured the rights for which oppressed people everywhere still yearn; and

WHEREAS, A Bill of Rights Day would be a memorial day honoring the personal sacrifices

and deaths of countless millions of people who have struggled for basic human and civil