

Resolution No. 2024 -

RESOLUTION OF THE SOLANO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2024 AS NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH IN SOLANO COUNTY

WHEREAS, Counties are one of America's oldest forms of government, dating back to 1634 when the first county governments were established, and, since then, county governments have continued to evolve and adapt to changing responsibilities, environments and populations. America's 3,069 county governments serve approximately 330 million Americans, providing essential services to create healthy, safe and vibrant communities while protecting the safety and welfare of all residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, governed by local elected officials, no two counties are the same, each structured a little different, using policy direction on a local level to determine the best way to deliver services to communities. The theme for this year's celebration is "Forward Together," and highlights the powerful role of county governments as partners that connect, inspire and lead; and

WHEREAS, nationally, counties support 976 hospitals, operate 1,550 local Public Health departments, run 30 percent of the country's public airports, construct, maintain, and manage tens of thousands of miles of county roads, operate bridges and solid waste collection programs, invest \$20 billion annually in courts and legal systems, administer vital records and host 167,000 polling places; and

WHEREAS, in Solano County, our employees are dedicated to ensuring access to critical services for residents including healthcare, employment opportunities, the criminal justice system, food and rental assistance, and much more. As one of the nation's 3,069 Counties, Solano County is proud to serve our residents with the programs and services they need; and

WHEREAS, the Agriculture / Weights and Measures department inspects more than 6,600 measuring and weighing devices annually, including gas pumps, grocery store scales, taxi meters, propane meters, livestock animal scales, and more, ensuring the public gets what they pay for when they access and consume services and materials in the County; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Child Support Services serves more than 13,500 families in the County through the collection and distribution of more than \$40 million dollars in assistance programs that directly benefit children, making it the eighth highest performing Child Support Service department in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, First 5 Solano provides funding and support to families and the community to help improve the lives of children ages zero to five in our community, including its current project to renovate the shuttered Beverly Hills Elementary School in Vallejo to turn it into an Early Learning Center, where it will provide up to 300 childcare slots; and

WHEREAS, the County's Department of Library Services implemented a new interactive software system, significantly expanding access to its digital media collection of books, magazines, films, and music to patrons, garnering a record-breaking 500,000 downloads in 2023, which equates to more than one digital checkout for every person living in Solano County; and

WHEREAS, the Public and Alternate Defender's Offices work to protect the rights, liberty, and dignity of clients as they make their way through the criminal justice system, including working on more than 6,900 cases in 2023. The Public Defender also helped more than 200 residents clean their criminal records, removing barriers to housing and employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Resource Management, Environmental Health division, conducted 1,600 annual inspections at retail food facilities in 2023, ensuring that when residents go out to eat, all food handling services and practices are being properly implemented; and

WHEREAS, the Veteran Service Office processes approximately 3,000 claims for benefits on behalf of veterans annually, helping them access medical, dental, survivor, educational, housing, and disability services they have earned as part of their military service; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and Social Services provides services to 1 in every 3 residents in Solano County including access to public assistance programming, medical services, public health and behavioral health services, assistance to older adults, and more, administered by nearly 1,300 employees working on three campuses and in the community in each of the major cities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Solano County Board of Supervisors does hereby recognize the month of April as National County Government Month in Solano County.

Dated this 2nd day of April 2024

MITCH MASHBURN, Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:
BILL EMLLEN, Clerk
Solano County Board of Supervisors

By: _____
Alicia Draves, Chief Deputy Clerk