

RESOLUTION NO: BOS-2018-128

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA  
DESIGNATING DECEMBER 10TH AS HUMAN RIGHTS DAY AND  
DECLARING SANTA CLARA COUNTY AS A HUMAN RIGHTS COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, all human beings are entitled to rights and freedoms without distinction on any basis, including race, color, creed, sex, gender and gender identity, sexual orientation, abilities, socioeconomic status, marital or partnership status, immigration status, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, or other status; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 10, 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations approved the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms; and

**WHEREAS**, the Declaration calls upon “every individual and every organ of society” to “strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures ... to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Declaration embodies the values that define us as a people, the ideals that challenge us to perfect our union, and the liberties that generations of Americans have fought to preserve at home and abroad; and

**WHEREAS**, as Eleanor Roosevelt said, universal human rights begin “in small places, close to home,” and “unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world”; and

**WHEREAS**, the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights guide the spirit of our laws, practices, and policies carried out with and on behalf of the residents of Santa Clara County; and

**WHEREAS**, Santa Clara County can be a model for our country and for the world as a Human Rights County—a county where we welcome persons of all races and ethnicities, including persons who recently arrived or have lived in this country for generations; where refugees and their American-born children are welcome; where women can feel safe walking alone, where people feel comfortable practicing the religion of their choice; where transgender persons are made visible and respected, where LGBTQI residents can live openly and freely, where all residents are an equal part of our diverse tapestry, and where anyone who wishes to live in acceptance of others can find refuge; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Santa Clara can be a leader among other counties in the promotion of human rights and human dignity, because it recognizes the fundamental principle that “[a]ll human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights” and that “[t]hey are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood”; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Santa Clara has made great efforts to implement human rights principles in the establishment of the Division of Equity and Social Justice housing the Offices of Cultural Competency, Immigrant Relations, LGBTQ Affairs, and Women’s Policy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Human Relations Commission of the County of Santa Clara was established in 1972 based on the spirit of the Declaration to advise the Board of Supervisors on human rights issues in the county and to promote respect for diversity and inclusion of all people; and,

**WHEREAS**, Human Rights Day celebrates a milestone in our commitment to uphold the inherent dignity and worth of every person, honors the legacy of a historic document that helps ensure that its ideals endure for the generations to come, and reminds us of our roots as one human family, forever dedicated to upholding the central tenets of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara, State of California, hereby designates December 10, 2018, and December 10 of each succeeding year as Human Rights Day; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors hereby declares this county a "Human Rights County" that explicitly embraces the principles of inclusion, respect, involvement, and the recognition of equality, freedom, and human dignity for all.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara, State of California, on November 20, 2018 by the following vote:

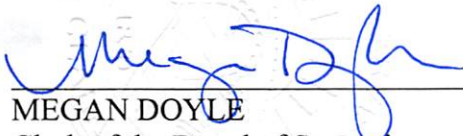
**AYES:** CHAVEZ, CORTSE, SIMITIAN, WASSERMAN, YEAGER  
**NOES:** NONE  
**ABSENT:** NONE  
**ABSTAIN:** NONE



S. JOSEPH SIMITIAN, President  
Board of Supervisors

Signed and certified that a copy of this document has been delivered by electronic or other means to the President, Board of Supervisors.

ATTEST:



MEGAN DOYLE  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:



KAVITA NARAYAN  
Lead Deputy County Counsel