

IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

_____ DAY _____, 2015

PRESENT: Supervisors

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION NO.
RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 19, 2015 AS
“VIRAL HEPATITIS AWARENESS DAY” IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

The following resolution is hereby offered and read:

WHEREAS, liver cancer and liver disease related to hepatitis B and C are two of the leading killers in California; and

WHEREAS, hepatitis C is the most prevalent blood-borne disease in the United States and in California; and

WHEREAS, early detection of hepatitis B or C infection promotes effective management or treatment of these infections, preventing disability, loss of productivity and income, and allowing people to live full, satisfying, and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, undetected and untreated hepatitis B or C infection can lead to disability or death; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the estimated 750,000 Californians with chronic hepatitis C infection do not know they are infected and are therefore at risk of severe liver disease, liver cancer, or liver failure; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the estimated 350,000 Californians with hepatitis B infection do not know they are infected, and are therefore at risk of severe liver disease, liver cancer, or liver failure; and

WHEREAS, untreated hepatitis B and C are the leading causes of liver failure requiring liver transplant; and

WHEREAS, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released updated guidelines calling for “Baby Boomers”, everyone born between 1945 through 1965, to receive a one-time hepatitis C test, which would save over 100,000 lives; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) issued a Grade B rating for screening for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection in persons at high risk for infection, Baby Boomers and others with identified risks; and

WHEREAS, Baby Boomers make up 30 percent of California’s adult population and African American Baby Boomers are twice as likely to have hepatitis C as other Baby Boomers; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the USPSTF issued a Grade A rating for screening pregnant women for the hepatitis B virus (HBV) during their first prenatal visit; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the USPSTF issued a Grade B rating for screening people born in countries where hepatitis B is common, U.S.-born people who were not vaccinated against hepatitis B when they were babies and whose parents come from countries where hepatitis B is common, and other people at risk for hepatitis B; and

WHEREAS, there is a vaccine for the prevention of hepatitis B, the first proven, low-cost vaccination against any form of cancer made available to Americans; and

WHEREAS, hepatitis B is most prevalent among people of Asian and Pacific Island descent, and one third of Americans of Asian and Pacific Island descent live in California; and

WHEREAS, hepatitis B-related and hepatitis C-related hospitalization charges totaled \$26.8 billion from 2002 to 2011 in California, mostly paid for by tax-supported public health insurers; and

WHEREAS, new medications can cure hepatitis C in over 90% of people who are linked to and retained care and treatment; and

WHEREAS, hepatitis B can be treated effectively with proper medical management and may be curable in the near future; and

WHEREAS, hepatitis awareness education campaigns and accessible screening for hepatitis B and C, along with appropriate treatment, can reduce the damage from hepatitis B and C viral infection to individuals and to our community, financially, as well as physically and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, the San Luis Obispo County Hepatitis C Project has enrolled over 950 clients in their supportive service program who are living with hepatitis C, providing over 10,000 face-to-face case management activities and over 200,000 meals from their pantry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of San Luis Obispo, Board of Supervisors, State of California, does hereby proclaim May 19, 2015 as “Viral Hepatitis Awareness Day” in San Luis Obispo County.

Upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, and on the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

The foregoing resolution is hereby adopted.

Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: _____
Deputy Clerk