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BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF FRESNO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. 23-109

IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING APRIL 11-17, 2023)
AS "BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH WEEK")

WHEREAS, Black Maternal Health Week (BMHW) was founded in 2018 by the Black Mamas Matter Alliance as a national week of awareness, activism, and community building intended to deepen the national conversation about Black maternal health in the U.S.; amplify community driven policy, research, and care solutions; center the voices of Black Mamas, women, families, and stakeholders; provide a national platform for Black-led entities and efforts on maternal health, birth, and reproductive justice; and enhance community organizing on Black maternal health; and

WHEREAS, racial and ethnic disparities continue to exist at a rate of 13.4% of white women and 43.1% of Black women living in concentrated poverty and unhealthy neighborhood conditions in California. In the County of Fresno, 24.3% of Black families and 44.7% of Black children live in concentrated poverty and unhealthy neighborhood conditions compared to 7.4% of white families and 12.4% of white children living in those same conditions. Societal norms, policies, and practices within education, housing, healthcare, economies, and environments have deepened racial and ethnic disparities; and

WHEREAS, Black women experience pregnancy-related deaths at a 3-4 times higher rate than all other racial and ethnic groups in California. Decreasing maternal racial disparities requires collaboration among local, state, and federal governments as well as healthcare systems, providers, and social service organizations. It also requires equitable investments in the services, programs, and environmental conditions that impact Black, Indigenous, and birthing persons of color; and

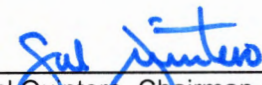
WHEREAS, doulas are non-medical providers within the healthcare system that have a specialized role and provide continuous support for pregnant persons throughout pregnancy, birth, and after birth. Doulas have been demonstrated to reduce the risk of preventable infant and maternal mortality for women of color; and

WHEREAS, in California 50% of maternal deaths are preventable. No woman or baby should experience a preventable preterm birth and no woman or baby should die from a preventable cause.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaim April 11-17, 2023 "Black Maternal Health Week" in the County of Fresno and encourages all citizens to be aware of the benefits of healthy mothers and babies and the ways in which we can work together to achieve healthy starts for all.


THE FOREGOING, was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 11th day of April 2023 to-wit:

AYES:	Supervisors Brandau, Magsig, Mendes, Pacheco, Quintero
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAINED:	None



Sal Quintero, Chairman of the Board of
Supervisors of the County of Fresno

ATTEST:
BERNICE E. SEIDEL
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Fresno, State of California

By 

Deputy