

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
COUNTY OF FRESNO  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2017 AS)  
"MARCH FOR BABIES" DAY IN THE COUNTY OF FRESNO)

RESOLUTION NO. 17-252

**WHEREAS**, Founded in 1938, the March of Dimes is a national, volunteer-based, health organization whose mission is to improve the health of pregnant women, infants and children by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality through research, community services, education and advocacy; and

**WHEREAS**, There are an estimated 15 million preterm babies (before 37 completed weeks gestation) born worldwide each year. It is the leading cause of death among children under 5 years of age and is responsible for nearly 1 million deaths in 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, In the United States, preterm births affect more than half a million families. In California 8.5% of children are born preterm (over 41,000 babies are born preterm), with almost 14,901 babies born with a birth defect and 2,354 babies who die before their first birthday; and

**WHEREAS**, In Fresno County 10.4% of children are born preterm with some preemie babies suffering from health complications, long-term physical and cognitive challenges and even death. Prematurity and birth defects are the leading causes of infant mortality, with medical and societal costs of preterm birth estimated at over 26 billion dollars per year; and

**WHEREAS**, April 19, 2017 was "Blue Jeans for Babies" day in the County of Fresno, where participants made donations and wore jeans to work in support of babies; and

**WHEREAS**, On April 29, 2017, March of Dimes invites the public to attend the "March for Babies" walk at Woodward Park, which raises funds for infants.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 as March for Babies day in the County of Fresno.

**THE FOREGOING** was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 25<sup>TH</sup> day of April, 2017, to-wit:

AYES:	Supervisors, Borgeas, Magsig, Mendes, Pacheco, Quintero
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None

  
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CHAIRMAN, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:  
BERNICE E. SEIDEL  
Clerk, Board of Supervisors

By Susan Bishop  
Deputy