

**PROCLAIMING
BINATIONAL HEALTH WEEK
OCTOBER 4 – 15, 2010**

WHEREAS, the Secretariats of Health and of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, the Institute for Mexicans Abroad, the Mexican Social Security Institute, California's Department of Public Health, The California Endowment, the California HealthCare Foundation, the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission, and the Health Initiative of the Americas, a program of the University of California at Berkeley, School of Public Health, have recognized the necessity of improving access to health services for the underserved Latino population in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2006 United States Census, this Country is home to more than 44.5 million people of Latino origin; and

WHEREAS, improving the health of mobile populations requires multiple approaches in service design, delivery, funding priorities, and most fundamentally, requires strong binational commitment; and

WHEREAS, since 2001, the Health Initiative of the Americas and partnering organizations have convened nine Binational Health Weeks, an unprecedented effort overseen by multi-agency taskforces, which conducted health promotion and education activities that have served over 1 million of the underserved Latino population in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Binational Health Week reflects coordinated efforts between the United States, Mexico, Canada, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru to improve the quality of lives of underserved populations by expanding access to health care, increasing health insurance coverage, and reducing unmet health needs; and

WHEREAS, the Health Initiative of the Americas, and the consular network in the United States of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, are coordinating the Ninth Annual Binational Health Week, and activities throughout the country will be centered in the regions with a high level of community health needs; and

WHEREAS, Marin County Board of Supervisors acknowledges the many organizations and volunteers collaborating in the organization of health fairs and educational health workshops; and

WHEREAS, Binational Health Week provides an opportunity to highlight critical health issues in Marin County and throughout the United States and will serve as the basis for future bilateral efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin is committed to recognizing and honoring those observances that are dedicated to the best ideals of public services. Binational Health Week is one such worthy observance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin hereby proclaims the weeks of October 4 – 15, 2010, as "Binational Health Week."

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 5th day of October 2010.