

*The Board of Supervisors of
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2022/74

Declaring February 28, 2022 Rare Disease Day in Contra Costa County

Whereas, there are nearly 7,000 diseases and conditions considered rare (each affecting fewer than 200,000 Americans) in the United States, according to the National Institutes of Health (NIH);

Whereas, while each of these diseases may affect small numbers of people, rare diseases as a group affect almost 30 million Americans;

Whereas, many rare diseases are serious and debilitating conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those affected;

Whereas, while more than 450 drugs and biologics have been approved for the treatment of rare diseases according to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), millions of Americans still have rare diseases for which there is no approved treatment;

Whereas, individuals and families affected by rare diseases often experience problems such as diagnosis delay, difficulty finding a medical expert, and lack of access to treatments or ancillary services;

Whereas, while the public is familiar with some rare diseases such as “Lou Gehrig’s disease” and sympathetic to those affected, many patients and families affected by less widely known rare diseases like Kennedy’s Disease bear a large share of the burden of funding research and raising public awareness to support the search for treatments;

Whereas, **hundreds** of residents of Contra Costa County are among those affected by rare diseases since nearly one in 10 Americans have rare diseases;

Whereas, the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) is organizing a nationwide observance of Rare Disease Day on February 28, 2022;

Whereas, thousands of patients and caregivers, medical professionals, researchers, companies developing orphan products to treat people with rare diseases, and others in Contra Costa County, will participate in that observance;

Therefore, be it resolved that **the last day of** February, will be observed as Rare Disease Day in the County of Contra Costa.

KAREN MITCHOFF

Chair, District IV Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA

District I Supervisor

CANDACE ANDERSEN

District II Supervisor

DIANE BURGIS

District III Supervisor

FEDERAL D. GLOVER

District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: March 8, 2022

Monica Nino, County Administrator

By: _____, Deputy