

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 286458

ADOPTED ON OCT 30 1995

WHEREAS, Dr. Kurt Benirschke, who has been described by his students and colleagues as having a "lifelong love affair with nature," became increasingly interested in wildlife conservation as a physician and professor of pathology and reproductive medicine at UCSD's School of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Benirschke, as one of the first scientists to lead the crusade to protect endangered species and to raise public awareness about the complexity of problems facing wildlife, has been seeking for solutions to both human and animal reproductive problems for the past forty years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Benirschke's research and study led him in 1975 to found the Center for Reproduction of Endangered Species (CRES) at the Zoological Society of San Diego; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Benirschke, as Director of the Center for Reproduction of Endangered Species from 1975-1985, set the standard for a multi-disciplinary approach to applying advances in human medical technology to the study and preservation of endangered wildlife species; and

WHEREAS, one of Dr. Benirschke's most visionary and far-reaching contributions to the Center for Reproduction of Endangered Species was the creation of the Frozen Zoo, a cell bank that is invaluable to the Zoological Society and to worldwide research; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Benirschke currently serves as chairman of the Center for Reproduction of Endangered Species Council; a trustee of the twelve member Board of the Zoological Society and chairman of the Research, Conservation and Animal Health Committee for the Zoological Society; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Benirschke's twenty years with the Center for Reproduction of Endangered Species and his pioneering work in comparative studies in human and animal reproduction and cytogenetics have earned him the San Diego Zoological Society's prestigious 1995 Conservation Medal; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of The City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby honor and recognize Dr. Benirschke on the Twentieth Anniversary of the Center for Reproduction of Endangered Species for his forty years of professional contributions, insight and dedication to reproductive and conservation research.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Council, in conjunction with the Zoological Society of San Diego, hereby congratulates Dr. Benirschke upon receiving the 1995 Conservation Medal by declaring Friday, November 3, 1995, to be "**Dr. Kurt Benirschke Day**" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: JOHN W. WITT, City Attorney

By Stuart H. Swett
Stuart H. Swett
Senior Chief Deputy

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Or.Dept:Council-Warden
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