

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 293080

ADOPTED ON MAY 15 2000

WHEREAS, speech, language, and related disorders affect 14 million Americans with one in 10 families in the City of San Diego affected by a communication disorder; and

WHEREAS, 26 million Americans are hard-of-hearing and 2 million are deaf due to poor development, injury, infection or degeneration in any part of the hearing system; and

WHEREAS, three of every 1,000 children are born with permanent hearing loss, which is often not identified until ages two or older, impacting their language development, academic performance, and social adjustment; and

WHEREAS, the State of California is in the process of implementing newborn hearing screening over the next three years providing parents the opportunity to have their infant child's hearing tested and reducing the average age of detection; and

WHEREAS, audiologists are the professionals who diagnose and treat hearing disorders through the use of amplification devices such as hearing aids and cochlear implants enabling individuals to use their residual hearing; and

WHEREAS, speech-language pathologists are the professionals who diagnose and treat speech, language, and related disorders through diagnostic evaluations and speech therapy; and

WHEREAS, special education teachers of children with communication disorders are the professionals who implement intervention strategies in order to help students acquire good auditory/oral communication skills and develop their cognitive potential; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council recognizes and values the efforts of all who work to eliminate or minimize the isolating effects of

communication disorders and empower these individuals to lead independent, productive and fulfilling lives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Council proclaims the month of May 2000 as
"Better Hearing and Speech Month" in San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

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