

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 296234

ADOPTED ON APR 02 2002

WHEREAS, San Diego Project Heartbeat, San Diego's Public Access Defibrillation Program, is a regional coalition created with two goals in mind: To save lives through early defibrillation and to make Automatic External Defibrillators, or AEDs, as accessible as fire extinguishers in San Diego County; and

WHEREAS, the leading cause of death in the United States is sudden cardiac arrest, killing over 465,000 people each year; and

WHEREAS, the most common cause of sudden cardiac arrest is ventricular fibrillation, when the heart's electrical impulses become irregular and the heart is unable to pump oxygen-rich blood throughout the body; and

WHEREAS, defibrillation by a safe, effective and easy to use device called an AED sends an electrical current through an erratic heart to restore organized rhythm; and

WHEREAS, AEDs are designed to be used by non-medical personnel and feature one-button operation with clear voice directions and automatic analysis, enabling a person with minimal training to use the device; and

WHEREAS, the new generation of AEDs analyzes a victim's condition and if necessary, delivers an electrical shock to the heart to reverse sudden cardiac arrest; and

WHEREAS, the key to surviving sudden cardiac arrest is the speed of response - a victim receiving a shock from an AED within one minute stands a 90% chance of resuscitation, while a victim having to wait ten minutes for a shock may only have a 5% chance of survival; and

WHEREAS, a goal of the program is to have AEDs available in all City facilities, County facilities, at schools and universities, at sports and entertainment facilities, office buildings and businesses, industries, places of worship and homes; and

WHEREAS, the coalition is made up of many entities, including the City of San Diego,

the County of San Diego, San Diego Medical Services Enterprise, San Diego Fire and Life Safety Services, San Diego City Firefighters Local 145, The American Heart Association and Cardiac Science, Inc.; 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 recognize and salute San Diego Project Heartbeat's dedication to saving lives and hereby proclaims April, 2002 to be "**San Diego Project Heartbeat Month**" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

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