

**ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGE OF *CONNECTING KIDS TO
COVERAGE* ISSUED BY SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES KATHLEEN SEBELIUS**

WHEREAS, 19,000 children in Alameda County lack health coverage for their basic and primary healthcare needs; and

WHEREAS, 13,000 of these children have been identified as eligible for Medi-Cal or the Healthy Families Program; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance of wellness in a child's emotional, mental, and physical development, school performance and life; and

WHEREAS, a high percentage of Alameda County children and youth, and a disproportionate number of African American and Latino children, suffer from preventable conditions such as obesity, asthma, and poor dental care; and

WHEREAS, in these difficult budget times, Alameda County should take advantage of the most cost effective measures to protect children and other vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, the County of Alameda has long been committed to cutting red tape, capitalizing on technology, increasing opportunities to enroll and retain eligible kids, and forging stronger partnerships and new opportunities with our public and private providers; and

WHEREAS, *Connecting Kids to Coverage* is a federally initiated public-private initiative to enroll all eligible but uninsured children into Medi-Cal and Healthy Families, for which the State and County receive a significant federal match; and

WHEREAS, various states, agencies, and non-profits across the nation have publicly accepted the challenge to insure all eligible children; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda, steps forward as the first county in California and the United States to declare its commitment and support for the *Connecting Kids to Coverage* challenge issued by Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius, in order to help uninsured children and their families receive coverage:

“*CONNECTING KIDS TO COVERAGE*”

NATE MILEY, President
Supervisor, Fourth District

March 15, 2011

KEITH CARSON, Vice President
Supervisor, Fifth District

SCOTT HAGGERTY
Supervisor, First District

NADIA LOCKYER
Supervisor, Second District

WILMA CHAN
Supervisor, Third District