

**MEMORANDUM**  
OFFICE OF THE  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
COUNTY OF PLACER

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Robert M. Weygandt, Supervisor District 2

**DATE:** September 27, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Present a Proclamation declaring October 2011 to be, "National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month" in Placer County.

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**ACTION REQUESTED**

Present a Proclamation declaring October 2011 to be, "National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month" in Placer County.

**BACKGROUND/COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

The federal Nursing Home Reform Act of 1987 guarantees residents their individual rights. The law requires nursing homes to promote and protect the rights of all residents and places a strong emphasis on individual dignity and self-determination. Nursing homes must meet federal requirements for resident rights if they participate in Medicare or Medicaid. A person living in a long-term care facility maintains the same rights as an individual in the larger community.

Each year, October has been designated as, "National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month" to recognize the rights of individuals living in long-term care facilities and to reaffirm their rights as community members and citizens.

This Proclamation declares October 2011 as "National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month" in Placer County. It will help raise awareness of the importance of honoring our residents in nursing homes to ensuring their civil rights are protected.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None

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**In the matter of a Proclamation declaring  
October 2011 as "National Long-Term Care Residents'  
Rights Month" in Placer County.**

**WHEREAS**, in the County of Placer, State of California, there are more than 3,300 residents who reside in long-term care facilities, including 154 assisted living and 11 skilled nursing facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal Nursing Home Reform Act of 1987 guarantees these residents their individual rights in order to promote and maintain their dignity and autonomy; and

**WHEREAS**, the staff and volunteer state certified long-term care ombudsmen respond to the residents' concerns and care issues; investigate complaints of abuse and neglect; monitor their facilities and witness their advance health care directives; and

**WHEREAS**, the staff and volunteer state certified long-term care ombudsmen observe the facilities' implementation of the promotion of residents' rights and help ensure that the residents are aware of their rights so they may be empowered to live with dignity and self-determination; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to honor and celebrate the long-term care residents, to recognize their rich individuality, and reaffirm their rights as members of our constituency, members of the community and major contributors to the quality of our lives; and

**WHEREAS**, National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month, which is celebrated during the month of October, was started by the National Consumer Voice to highlight the importance of resident focused care; and

**WHEREAS**, Ombudsman Services of Northern California, a project of Legal Services of Northern California and Area 4 Agency on Aging, along with individuals and groups across the country will celebrate Residents' Rights Month to emphasize the importance of affirming these rights through facility practices, public policy and resident-centered decision-making that impacts their quality of care and quality of life.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT** the Placer County Board of Supervisors does hereby declare October, 2011 as "National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month" in Placer County.

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Jennifer Montgomery, Supervisor District 5  
Vice Chairman 2011

Jack Duran  
Supervisor, District 1

Robert M. Weygandt  
Supervisor, District 2

Jim Holmes  
Supervisor, District 3

Kirk Uhler  
Supervisor, District 4