



**PROCLAMATION
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO
POSTHUMOUSLY HONORING DR. STEVEN M. THAXTON
FOUNDING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR FIRST 5 EL DORADO
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, Dr. Steven M. Thaxton was appointed as Executive Director for First 5 El Dorado Children and Families Commission in 1998, and was responsible for funding over \$20 million in programs for families with young children from birth through age five; and,

WHEREAS, Steven's work with First 5 El Dorado resulted in a continuum of services supporting families prenatally through kindergarten, seeking to assure school readiness by increasing access to health insurance, home visits for parents with newborns, regular developmental screening for children, early literacy library programs, quality care and education services and community strengthening groups; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Steven Thaxton had a lifelong commitment to the early childhood field serving as an elementary school Principal with the San Mateo City School District, and Administrator for early childhood and special education programs with the San Mateo City School District, San Francisco Unified School District, Merced County Office of Education and the Stanislaus County Office of Education; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Thaxton was a leader in the early childhood field, serving as Treasurer for the California Association for the Education of Young Children, board member for Creative Living Options, and a founding member of Healthy Kids Healthy Futures; and,

WHEREAS, Steven, the teacher and mentor in the early childhood field, taught classes and served as a professional growth advisor at California State University, San Francisco, California State University, Sacramento, and Sierra College; and,

WHEREAS, Steven, the writer and author, had four novels published along with many professional articles; and,

WHEREAS, Steven, the loving father, was dedicated to young children and devoted to his family, Jennifer, Jayson, Joshua, Hannah, Haley and Bryson; and,

WHEREAS, Steven's passion for making our community a better place is best stated in his own words, *"Be part, take part, do things for other people, and take care of each other. Know that change in life is good, life is fluid, life is making and having new experiences and not looking back"*.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Board of Supervisors for the County of El Dorado, does herewith recognize and honor Dr. Steven M. Thaxton as a passionate advocate for families with young children and whose efforts resulted in establishing a highly successful early childhood system in our county. He will be greatly missed.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors at a regular meeting held December 2, 2014.

Attest:

James S. Mitrising
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

by:



Deputy Clerk



Norma Santiago, Chair, Board of Supervisors