



PROCLAMATION

of the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado In Recognition of National Blood Donor Month

WHEREAS, President Richard Nixon proclaimed January 1970 as the first National Blood Donor Month on December 31, 1969, to pay tribute to voluntary blood donors and encourage new donors to join. He praised the generosity of the American people, declaring: “No manifestation of this generosity of spirit is more expressive, and no gift more priceless in time of personal crisis, than the donation of one’s blood. The voluntary blood donor truly gives life itself.”; and

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization (WHO) states “blood is the most precious gift that anyone can give to another person – the gift of life. A decision to donate your blood can save a life, or even several if your blood is separated into its components - red cells, platelets and plasma.”; and

WHEREAS, Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. It is essential for surgeries, cancer treatment, chronic illnesses and traumatic injuries. One donation can potentially save up to 3 lives; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 36,000 units of red blood cells, 7,000 units of platelets and 10,000 units of plasma are needed every day in the U.S. Blood and platelets cannot be manufactured; they can only come from volunteer donors, and

WHEREAS, Less than 38 percent of the population is eligible to give blood or platelets and only about 3 percent of age-eligible people donate blood yearly; and

WHEREAS, Healthy adults who are at least 17 years old, and at least 110 pounds may donate about a pint of blood - the most common form of donation - every 56 days, or every two months.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado does hereby recognize January as Blood Donor Month to increase public understanding of the importance of blood donation and urges community members to donate toward this lifesaving cause.

Passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held this 12th day of January, 2021.

Attest:

Kim Dawson
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

John Hidahl, Chair, Board of Supervisors