



**Proclamation**  
**OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO**  
**Recognizing April 16-22, 2017 as National Healthcare Decisions Week**

**WHEREAS**, National Healthcare Decisions Week, is designed to raise public awareness of the need to plan ahead for health care decisions, related to end of life care and medical decision-making whenever patients are unable to speak for themselves and to encourage the specific use of advance directives to communicate these important health care decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, in California the Advance Care Directive form provides the specifics of our advance directives law and offers a model form for patient use; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that only about 23 percent of people in California have executed an advance directive. Moreover, it is estimated that less than 50 percent of severely or terminally ill patients have an advance directive; and

**WHEREAS**, it is likely that a significant reason for these low percentages is that there is both a lack of knowledge and considerable confusion in the public about Advance Directives; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the principal goals of National Healthcare Decisions Day is to encourage hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, continuing care retirement communities, and hospices to participate in a State-wide effort to provide clear and consistent information to the public about advance directives, as well as to encourage medical professionals and lawyers to volunteer their time and efforts to improve public knowledge and increase the number of El Dorado County citizens with advance directives; and

**WHEREAS**, Snowline Hospice and other organizations throughout California have endorsed this event and are committed to educating the public about the importance of discussing health care choices and executing advance directives; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of April 16-22, 2017, being recognized as National Healthcare Decisions Week in El Dorado County, more citizens will have conversations about their health care decisions; more citizens will execute Advance Directives to make their wishes known; and fewer families and health care providers will have to struggle with making difficult health care decisions in the absence of guidance from the patient.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that the El Dorado County Board of Supervisor's hereby recognize April 16-22, 2017 as National Healthcare Decisions Week to raise awareness of the need to plan ahead for healthcare decisions.

**Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.**

**Attest:**

James S. Mitrisin  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

by:

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Deputy Clerk

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Shiva Frentzen, Chair, Board of Supervisors  
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