

## RESOLUTION NO. 2021-

# HEALTHY COMMUNITIES RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The paramount concern of policymakers at all levels is the health and well-being of our constituents, never more so than during what has been called a once-in-a-century pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Decisions affecting the health and well-being of our constituents must be based on empirical evidence without regard to politics or the influence of special interest groups; and

WHEREAS, California has struggled as much as any state during the COVID-19 pandemic, with the third highest unemployment rate in the country, the largest backlog of unpaid jobless claims, and the fifth worst excess death rate west of the Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, California's *Blueprint for a Safer Economy* provides a one-size-fits-all approach to reopening communities that fails to allow the flexibility to respond in a data-driven way to what is occurring in Del Norte County; and

WHEREAS, The *Blueprint* largely impacts the operation of businesses and schools without any showing that those environments are responsible for COVID-19 cases observed in Del Norte County; and

WHEREAS, Del Norte County has seen increases in drug abuse, delayed medical care, behavioral health crisis services have been utilized at an exponentially high rate and the overall need for mental health services further taxing our overwhelmed Department of Health and Human Services; and

WHEREAS, Del Norte County is extremely concerned about the impacts to our children of any further delays to in-person education and support our children returning to the classroom;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors believe these facts demonstrate a need for collective and unified action from our County and surrounding communities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors approves this Resolution with a commitment to the following principles:

1. Our County is best served by an ability to respond locally to the COVID-19 virus in accordance with our local data and circumstances, as specified, for instance, in the attestation filed with the California Department of Public Health.
2. Our County is geographically diverse and ill-suited for the county-wide restrictions imposed by the *Blueprint*, and the State should enable our COVID-19 response to be tailored to geographically separate areas, as circumstances and case levels warrant.

3. The County supports the Del Norte Unified School District and The Del Norte County Office of Education in our jurisdiction in safely re-opening all schools and providing in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible without further delay.

Passed and adopted on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Attest:

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Kylie Goughnour, Clerk  
Board of Supervisors  
Del Norte County, California

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, Chair  
Board of Supervisors  
Del Norte County, California