



RESOLUTION No. _____

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING NOVEMBER 2021 AS HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE MONTH IN NEVADA COUNTY

WHEREAS, 2021 marks the 54th anniversary of St. Christopher's Hospice in London, widely recognized as the first modern day hospice organization, and the 39th anniversary of the Medicare hospice benefit in the United States; and

WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care offer those they serve the high-quality of care delivered by an interdisciplinary team of skilled professionals and trained volunteers that includes physicians, nurses, social workers, therapists, counselors, health aides, spiritual care providers and more; and

WHEREAS, the hospice and palliative care philosophy places the needs of the individual at the center of care allowing patients and family caregivers to focus on quality of life, surrounded and supported by family and loved ones, despite serious and life-limiting illness; and

WHEREAS, every year more than 1.5 million Americans living with life-limiting illness, and their families, received care from the nation's hospice programs in communities throughout the United States, yet more than 40 percent of Medicare beneficiaries received care for 14 days or less, considered too short a time to fully benefit from the range of services that hospice offers; and

WHEREAS, each year, hospice saves Medicare more than \$2 billion by providing solutions for physicians, care to patients and comfort to families; and

WHEREAS, a growing body of peer-reviewed research indicates that timely access to hospice and palliative care can decrease hospitalizations and Emergency Room visits and increase quality of life for patients and family caregivers; and

WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care organizations are advocates and educators about advance care planning that help individuals make decisions about the healthcare they would want to receive should they have a serious or life-limiting illness or if they were unable to speak for themselves; and

WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care providers encourage all people to learn more about options of care and to share their wishes with family, loved ones, and their healthcare professionals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Nevada County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim November 2021 as Hospice and Palliative Care Month in Nevada County and encourages citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of care at the end of life and to observe this month with appropriate activities and programs.