BOS APPROVED: 09-29-09
M.O. #20b

PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF IMPERIAL DECLARING OCTOBER 3RD THROUGH 15TH, 2009 AS, "THE NINTH ANNUAL BINATIONAL HEALTH WEEKS"

WHEREAS, the Secretariats of Health and of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, the Institute for Mexicans Abroad, the Mexican Social Security Institute, California's Department of Public Health, The California Endowment, the California HealthCare Foundation, the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission, and the Health Initiative of the Americas, a program of the University of California at Berkeley, School of Public Health, have recognized the necessity of improving access to health services for the underserved Latino population in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2006 estimate, this country is home to more than 44.5 million people of Latino origin and improving the health of mobile populations requires multiple approaches in service design, delivery, funding priorities, and most fundamentally, requires strong binational commitment; and

WHEREAS, in October 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008 the Health Initiative of the Americas, and partnering organizations convened the first eight Binational Health Weeks, an unprecedented effort overseen by multi-agency taskforces, which conducted health promotion and education activities for the underserved Latino population in the United States and over 1,000,000 people benefited from the health care activities; and

WHEREAS, Binational Health Week reflects coordinated efforts between the United States, Mexico, Canada, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru to improve the quality of life of underserved populations by expanding their access to health care, increasing their health insurance coverage, and reducing their unmet health needs; and

WHEREAS, the Health Initiative of the Americas, and the consular network in the United States of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru are coordinating the Ninth Annual Binational Health Week, and activities throughout the country will be centered in the regions with a high level of community health needs; and

WHEREAS, Binational Health Week provides an opportunity to highlight critical health issues in the County of Imperial and throughout the United States and will serve as the basis for future bilateral efforts; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the County of Imperial, Board of Supervisors, does hereby proclaim October 3-15, 2009 as, ***"The Ninth Annual Binational Health Weeks in Imperial County"***

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Imperial during a regular meeting on this 29th day of September, 2009, by an affirmative roll call vote.

WALLY LEIMGRUBER, Chairman
Imperial County Board of Supervisors

SYLVIA BERMUDEZ
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Imperial