

## RESOLUTION NO. .

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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### RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE ADVANCEMENT OF DIGITAL ACCESS FOR OLDER ADULTS IN THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

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**WHEREAS**, digital access and literacy are essential in today's society for accessing information, services, and staying connected; and

**WHEREAS**, 22% of adults aged 65 and older in the United States do not use the internet, with the lack of access and digital literacy being significant barriers; and

**WHEREAS**, older adults in San Mateo County represent a growing population that may face increased challenges in accessing digital services, potentially leading to social isolation and difficulty in accessing essential services such as healthcare, financial management, and communication with family and friends; and

**WHEREAS**, San Mateo County is committed to digital inclusion and equity through various programs, services, and investments aimed at closing the digital divide, having distributed over 200 devices to seniors, provided internet access support through local libraries, and offered digital literacy training sessions in collaboration with community organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic further highlighted the importance of digital connectivity for all residents, particularly for older adults who may rely on online services for telehealth, remote communication, and accessing information on health and safety; and

**WHEREAS**, San Mateo County continues to work with local and national organizations to align investments in digital infrastructure with broader digital inclusion strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of San Mateo and its residents to advance digital access for older adults to promote their well-being and integration into the digital society;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that the County of San Mateo reaffirms its commitment to digital equity for older adults by continuing to invest in programs and services that promote digital literacy, provide necessary devices and internet access, and support initiatives aimed at integrating older adults into the digital community.

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