

RESOLUTION NO. .

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

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RESOLUTION REQUIRING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WORKSITE LACTATION ROOMS IN ALL NEW COUNTY-OWNED BUILDINGS IN WHICH COUNTY EMPLOYEES WILL WORK

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends mothers to breastfeed exclusively for the first six months of an infant's life; and

WHEREAS, medical research has linked breastfeeding to several health benefits for both mother and child which includes decreased risks in obesity, childhood infections and breast and ovarian cancers; and

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, in 2015, 4 out of 5 mothers started breastfeeding, but only about 25% were exclusively breastfeeding at 6 months; and

WHEREAS, under current California labor codes, every employer shall make reasonable efforts to provide break time to nursing employees who request to express breast milk in a location that is private, not a toilet stall and is in close proximity to the employee's work are; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo's Wellness Program has supported workplace policies that promote breastfeeding through its Worksite Lactation Program which offers lactation rooms that exceed current California mandates for lactation accommodations; and

WHEREAS, there are currently 32 San Mateo County worksites and counting that have a lactation room, with 19 of those rooms designated solely for the purpose of expression; and

WHEREAS, in order to further promote the healthy practice of breastfeeding and to enable nursing county employees to do so, all county maintained buildings and future county maintained buildings should include lactation rooms with features and amenities such as access to electricity outlets, sinks, refrigeration, locks, a chair or sofa and a permanent sign outside the lactation room to indicate its location and whether if it is currently in use by a nursing employee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby encourage and fully support the implementation of worksite lactation rooms in all new County-owned buildings in which County employees will work.

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