

**A RESOLUTION OF THE VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ESTABLISHING A COMMITMENT OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO
POLICIES THAT SUPPORT THE WORKING POOR**

Resolution No. 14-094

WHEREAS, since the last recession, many workers and families have not re-attained middle-class income levels, and the economic growth that has occurred has been characterized by increasing income inequality; and

WHEREAS, the absence of middle-class jobs and living wage salaries are increasingly a problem for the growing population of the working poor, those who work full time and still struggle to make ends meet; and

WHEREAS, growing income disparity threatens all citizens' long-term wellbeing, as historically, periods of growing income inequality in America have been followed by significant financial disruptions, such as the Great Depression that followed the 1920s; and

WHEREAS, in the long run, growing income inequality is not sustainable and threatens our economic system which relies on a participatory democracy with an engaged citizenry; and

WHEREAS, a sustainable economy and national government can be jeopardized by increasing economic inequality and growing socio-economic need, whereas the development of an appropriately educated, skilled, and participatory workforce is essential to national prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Ventura County has a high cost of living, and in order for families to live above subsistence levels a family income far above the state minimum wage is necessary; and

WHEREAS, County government is the second largest employer in Ventura County with approximately 8,500 employees; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors' primary responsibility is the protection of the health, welfare, and safety of Ventura County residents.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, it is appropriate for us to commit to the following policies:

1. Expand the efforts made with our last two salary increases to have a growing part of future salary package increases be composed of across-the-board fixed-dollar increases that allow lower income employees to benefit more from a payroll increase.
2. Advocate for increases to the minimum wage.
3. Encourage citizens to support businesses that pay employees living wages and provide appropriate work schedules.

4. Encourage our citizens to achieve the highest level of skill training possible by taking advantage of our educational institutions and organizations such as the Work Force Investment Board.

Upon motion of Supervisor Bennett, seconded by Supervisor Zaragoza, and duly carried, the foregoing resolution was adopted on September 9, 2014.

[Signature]
Chair of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: MICHAEL B. POWERS
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors,
County of Ventura, State of California

By [Signature]
Deputy Clerk of the Board

