

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

February 1, 2005

AIDS is a devastating and completely preventable disease, yet the HIV/AIDS epidemic continues to spread throughout the country. AIDS is an epidemic that has affected every stratum of society regardless of age, racial and ethnic group.

In addition to its broad reach, the HIV/AIDS epidemic has disproportionately affected African-Americans. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that young African-American gay men are at greater risk for HIV infections than any other group. HIV/AIDS remains the leading cause of death in the United States for all African-American men between 25 and 44 years of age. African-Americans have the highest rate of AIDS-related deaths, and are estimated to have lost the largest number of years of productive life when compared to other racial and ethnic groups. Studies suggest that African-Americans are more likely than members of other racial and ethnic groups to have multiple adults within a family infected with HIV.

African-Americans comprise less than ten percent of the total population of Los Angeles County, yet account for more than twenty-two percent of all persons living with AIDS in Los Angeles County, and more than twenty-five percent of AIDS cases reported in Los Angeles County in 2000. Nearly forty percent of African-Americans living with AIDS in California were diagnosed with AIDS while living in Los Angeles County.

- MORE -

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MOTION

BURKE _____

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MOLINA _____

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There is a clear and critical need for increased awareness and prevention of HIV/AIDS among African-Americans, increased HIV counseling and testing as appropriate and enhanced HIV-related medical and social services for African-Americans. A comprehensive system of effective HIV prevention, counseling, testing and treatment services for African-Americans should set a standard of services for all people with or at risk for HIV in Los Angeles County.

THEREFORE I MOVE THAT the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles join **National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Coalition of Los Angeles** proclaiming **the Week of February 01, through February 07, 2005 as the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Week** throughout the County of Los Angeles

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