

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

August 19, 2008

6th Sea Otter Awareness Week, September 21-September 27, 2008

Defenders of Wildlife, in 2007 celebrated 60 years of wildlife and habitat conservation, it is dedicated to the protection of native wild animals and plants in their natural communities. Its programs focus on what scientists consider two of the most serious environmental threats to the planet: the accelerating rate of extinction of species and the associated loss of biological diversity, and habitat alteration and destruction. Long known for their leadership on endangered species issues, Defenders of Wildlife also advocates new approaches to wildlife conservation that will help keep species from becoming endangered. Its programs encourage protection of entire ecosystems and interconnected habitats while protecting predators that serve as indicator species for ecosystem health.

The sea otter is a symbol of wilderness, an integral part of California's natural ecosystem, and serves as an indicator for the overall health of California's nearshore marine ecosystem and, a growing awareness of the benefits of maintaining the health of the nearshore marine ecosystem has raised public interest in the sea otter; and

Disease from a variety of sources, including land-based biological pathogens, accounts for approximately 40% of the mortality for California sea otters in a given year and the survival of the sea otter in California remains dependent upon continued public support and increased understanding of the essential role sea otters play in nature;

THEREFORE, I MOVE THAT THE BOARD:

Hereby proclaim the week of September 21 – September 27, 2008 to be Sea Otter Awareness Week throughout the County of Los Angeles.

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YBB:CB:jar/sea otters 8-19-08
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MOTION

MOLINA _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

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