

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

MARCH 19, 2013

World Tuberculosis (TB) Day March 24, 2013

Each year, World Tuberculosis Day is recognized on March 24th to commemorate the day in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch of Germany astounded the scientific community by announcing his discovery of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacillus that causes tuberculosis.

For the second year, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has joined the global Stop TB Partnership to adopt the slogan "Stop TB in My Lifetime." This two-year campaign builds upon the last World Tuberculosis Day and encourages people around the world to call for the eradication of tuberculosis during their lifetimes.

Tuberculosis remains an epidemic in much of the world. Globally, in 2011, an estimated 8.7 million new cases were diagnosed and 1.4 million people died from the disease, mostly in developing countries. In 2011, the CDC reported 10,521 new tuberculosis cases and 420 tuberculosis deaths occurred in the United States. The County of Los Angeles reported 625 new cases of tuberculosis and 77 deaths in Los Angeles County in 2011. While great strides have been made to control and cure tuberculosis, more needs to be done.

Tuberculosis is preventable and in most cases curable through early detection and appropriate drug regimens administered via Directly Observed Therapy (DOT), a

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MOTION

MOLINA _____

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Public Health intervention that ensures adherence to therapy. The utilization of rapid and accurate diagnostic and screening tools and the appropriate implementation of shorter treatment regimens for latent infection can facilitate efforts to more effectively control this disease.

Everyone has a role to play so that one day tuberculosis will be eradicated. CDC and the departments of public health throughout the United States are all committed to a world free of this disease. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) ensures that those affected by tuberculosis are processed through early identification and administered appropriate drug regimens via “Directly Observed Therapy”, a DPH intervention that ensures adherence to treatment.

THEREFORE, I MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Proclaim March 24, 2013 as World Tuberculosis (TB) Day in Los Angeles County and urge all residents, healthcare organizations, private providers and community coalitions throughout the County of Los Angeles to support prevention and control efforts for individuals, families, and communities affected by tuberculosis.

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