



# County of Sonoma

## State of California

Date: August 10, 2025

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ 4/5 Vote Required

### **Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,**

#### **Celebrating and Acknowledging the B'nai Israel Jewish Center's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Whereas,** since 1864, Petaluma has been home to many Jewish families seeking a better life of freedom and opportunities. They came from diverse cultural, educational, political and spiritual backgrounds, but shared a common bond to create a meaningful center of Jewish life; and

**Whereas,** together, they created Congregation Society B'nai Israel, receiving incorporation in California in 1871; and

**Whereas,** for many years they relied on private homes and public halls to gather, until 1925 when they pooled their resources to build a permanent home, the Petaluma Jewish Center, which is still thriving today as B'nai Israel Jewish Center; and

**Whereas,** the Center at 740 Western Avenue still stands today as a proud testament to the dedication and perseverance of the founding families; and

**Whereas,** one hundred years later, a vibrant Jewish Center, is dedicated to diversity, education, cultural events, music and youth and family programming for its members and for the wider community; and

**Whereas,** the Congregation Society B’nai Israel of Petaluma is the oldest Jewish community between San Francisco and Portland, Oregon. Its center stands as a community hub, synagogue space and beloved Gan Israel Preschool; and

**Whereas,** the Center prides itself on being part of the diverse tapestry of cultural resources in Sonoma County, and works to continue the vision of its founders to be a vibrant Jewish Center for its members and for the wider community.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved,** that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors does hereby celebrate and acknowledge the B'nai Israel Jewish Center the 100th anniversary.

**Supervisors:**

Hermosillo:      Rabbitt:      Coursey:      Gore:      Hopkins:

Ayes:              Noes:              Absent:              Abstain:

**So Ordered.**