



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR CRUZ M. BUSTAMANTE

Resolution

*California Hepatitis C Virus Task Forces
Excellence in Improving Public Health*

WHEREAS, I am pleased to welcome today's distinguished guests, community leaders and volunteers to this third annual conference honoring California's County Hepatitis C Virus Task Forces, which, through great personal sacrifice, continue to work relentlessly to provide better treatment availability, research and awareness of the Hepatitis C Virus—a chronic and potentially life-threatening disease that has invaded the lives of approximately 650,000 Californians; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, heads of county health departments, legislators and prominent experts on liver disease convened to discuss the Hepatitis C Virus crisis and develop partnerships that promote awareness, advancements in treatment and vaccines that may alleviate this major health concern, which has affected people at all socioeconomic levels and is burdening our health care system; and the convention was proclaimed a great success and has since become an annual event involving health care professionals from across the country; and

WHEREAS, a national organization is now forming, modeled after the California task forces and expanding nationwide efforts to combat the Hepatitis C Virus; and representatives from 15 states will form the founding collaborative partnership that will reflect state and local missions, strategies and visions for legislative public health reform on chronic liver diseases; and

WHEREAS, this day will also serve as a commemoration of those who have suffered or perished from Hepatitis and other related conditions, and as we honor their memories, I urge all of the citizens of our state to support a compassionate commitment to combating the stigmatization of those with the Hepatitis C Virus—so that they may receive greater access to the health care they deserve; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that I, Cruz M. Bustamante, Lieutenant Governor of the State of California, do hereby support efforts to enhance treatment, awareness and scientific research efforts in battling liver disease; and I am pleased to recognize the members of the California Hepatitis C Virus Task Forces for their dedication to the health and well-being of all Californians, as well as their commitment to creating innovative projects that advance their mission of finding a cure; and I encourage all Californians to join me in doing so.



I hereunto set my hand and have caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed on this 18th day of March, of the Year Two Thousand and Four.

Cruz M. Bustamante
CRUZ M. BUSTAMANTE
Lieutenant Governor